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TODAY IN STRIPES

Abby, Annie's Mailbox.....	26
American Roundup.....	20-21
Classified.....	30-32
Comics.....	24-26
Crossword.....	25
Faces 'n' Places.....	16
Horoscope.....	24
Letters.....	22
Opinion.....	23
Sports.....	32-40
TV listings.....	18
Weather.....	19
Your Money.....	17

News Tracker ... What's new with old news

Nation

Los Alamos security: Los Alamos National Laboratory has failed to properly keep track of several computers that handle classified information, an Energy Department report says.

The department's Inspector General's Office, in a follow-up to a 2003 preliminary report, identified continuing problems that "undermine confidence" in the ability of the New Mexico lab to ensure classified computers are properly managed and "safeguarded from loss or theft."

Disney death: Walt Disney Entertainment has been fined \$6,300 for the death of a worker dressed as Pluto who was run over and killed by a float as it entered a Magic Kingdom parade at the Orlando, Fla., park, officials said Wednesday.

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration categorized the citation "serious" because employees were exposed to the hazard of being struck by motorized vehicles, according to OSHA.

Detroit terror trial: The Bush administration's already troubled case against an accused terror cell in Detroit is being dealt another blow with revelations that a witness came forward after the trial to undercut a key piece of video evidence presented to jurors.

Lawyers and Justice Department officials said Wednesday night that a man shown in a videotape of landmarks in New York, Las Vegas and California has told investigators the tape was an amateur film and not surveillance as prosecutors portrayed at the trial of four suspected terrorists.

Ryan charges: A Chicago judge declined to throw out conspiracy and fraud charges against former Gov. George Ryan and rejected a co-defendant's request for a separate trial.

In the opinion Wednesday, U.S. District Judge Rebecca Pallmeyer also declined to dismiss charges against the co-defendant, Lawrence Warner.

Ryan has pleaded innocent to racketeering conspiracy, mail fraud, tax fraud, filing false tax returns and making false statements. A former lobbyist, Warner has pleaded innocent to charges alleging he pocketing about \$3 million from contracts steered to his clients by Ryan.



California wildfire: A fast-growing wildfire started by sparks from a lawn mower destroyed at least 40 residences near the eastern edge of Shasta Lake, Calif., forcing hundreds of people to flee. The blaze scorched 3,000 acres by Thursday morning, said Kevin Colburn, spokesman for the state forestry department. The fire was 40 percent contained, but a shift in the wind overnight pushed the fire southward, he said. More than 300 people were evacuated Wednesday. Five people suffered minor injuries. Officials cited the lawn mower operator, and the person might be held responsible for the costs of suppressing the fire, Colburn said.

World

Bird flu: Three people, including two children, have died from bird flu in Vietnam, the first time the virus has jumped from poultry to people since a devastating outbreak swept through the region earlier this year, a health official said Thursday.

All three victims tested positive for the H5N1 strain of the virus and died between July 30 and Aug. 3, said officials.

In recent months, bird flu has reappeared in China, Thailand, Indonesia and Vietnam, which had declared itself free of the disease at the end of March.

Al-Qaida arrests: Pakistan authorities arrested five more suspected members of Osama bin Laden's al-Qaida network in the past 48 hours, including "valuable targets," a senior government official said Thursday.

He said the arrests were made during raids in different parts of the country and that the detainees were being questioned in efforts to capture other al-Qaida members.

Nuclear accident: Japan has ordered safety checks at the country's 52 nuclear plants and 800 non-nuclear power stations to prevent the type of accident that killed four people at a reactor this week, government officials said Thursday.

Government investigators kept up searches and questioning Thursday at the plant at Mihama, 200 miles west of Tokyo, where a cooling pipe exploded Monday. The operator, Kansai Electric Power, is under suspicion of negligence.

Hong Kong croc: A crocodile that enchanted Hong Kongers by going on the loose and eluding capture for months has been named Pui Pui — meaning "precious one" in Cantonese dialect — after a naming competition that attracted 1,600 entries, the government said Thursday.

The crocodile dodged traps, dart guns and harpoons in attempts followed closely by local media. The hunting saga came to an end on June 10 when Pui Pui wandered into a snare set out by the government.

Photo and stories from The Associated Press

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PACAF looking out for airmen's legal affairs

New program prepares wills, insurance in case of combat deployment

By VINCE LITTLE

Stars and Stripes

YOKOTA AIR BASE, Japan — Pacific Air Forces has adopted a new program aimed at organizing the legal affairs of deploying servicemen.

Airmen from Yokota, Kadema and Misawa air bases must complete a "legal check-up" before the end of the year under the Legal Readiness Program, a Web-based educational briefing created in response to command concerns that Air Force servicemen were legally prepared for temporary duty stints.

Gen. William Begert, the former PACAF commander, wanted to minimize the number of airmen who deployed without appropriately ensuring their families were secure back home, said Capt. Lisa Gorog, the chief of legal assistance for the 374th Airlift Wing's Staff Judge Advocate.

"I've wanted to make sure they had things in place such as a will or sufficient life insurance," she said. "We wanted to ensure all PACAF airmen had provided their families

with a safety net. Accordingly, the purpose of this program is to ensure our airmen are legally ready so that their families are taken care of in the event of their death.

"Essentially, the program is designed to verify our airmen's personal legal affairs are in order. We want to make sure all airmen are legally ready — not just deploying airmen."

According to a January 2003 survey, Gorog said, just 50 percent of PACAF airmen possessed wills or had asked a legal representative about drafting one. Most PACAF fatalities involved airmen who hadn't left a will.

The new program also is designed to solidify power-of-attorney documents tied to finances, health-care needs and life insurance, she added.

Prior to the LRP, each airman marked for deployment was given a checklist they could bring to the installation's legal office.

"If officials there would then offer an opportunity to draft a will, powers of attorney or any other legal document needed prior to deployment, Gorog said.

The new process is now a mandatory, annual requirement for PACAF servicemen, according to 1st Lt. Warren Comer, a 374th Airlift Wing spokesman.

"In the past, when servicemen would go through the line before a deployment, legal would have a desk set up and they'd offer services. But they were on an optional basis. You could use it if you wanted to," he said. "Sometimes, airmen would go on deployment and find out that a spouse or family member back home couldn't get money out of a bank account because the name didn't match up on the check. Obviously, that's a big problem."

"This program removes a lot of the doubts and uncertainties. We want to make sure airmen don't have to worry about these things and are ready to get on that plane when the call comes."

A "legal checkup" is a two-step procedure, Gorog said. First, an airman must complete a Web-based "triage" program that assesses his or her individual legal readiness. If that individual has no legal needs, the program issues a certificate of legal readiness.

However, if outstanding requirements exist, a legal-readiness appointment will be generated, she added.

"Specifically, the man will receive an e-mail directing him to the legal office within 30 days for a legal-readiness briefing," Gorog said, adding that Yokota's legal office plans to conduct the sessions at 8:30 a.m. every Monday and Wednesday.

"If, after the briefing, the airmen wants certain legal documents, a legal-assessment appointment is immediately scheduled. If the airmen does not want any legal instruments, the legal office issues a legal-readiness certificate," she noted.

"This program is designed to ensure PACAF airmen have received enough information to make informed decisions about legal documents they may need prior to deployment."

Air Force servicemen can access the LRP at <https://www.hqpacaf.mil/ja/Legal%20Readiness%20Program.LRP.htm>. After logging on, they should select "PACAF Legal Readiness Triage Program."

E-mail Vince Little at: ltittle@stripes.osd.mil

U.S. officials maintain silence on plans for alleged Army deserter

By JEREMY KIRK

Stars and Stripes

SEOUL — The fate of Sgt. Charles Robert Jenkins — a U.S. soldier believed to have defected by walking across the border into North Korea during a 1965 Demilitarized Zone patrol — could go one of several routes, said lawyers and others observing the case.

The desertion case could end in a plea bargain satisfying the U.S. government's desire to punish Jenkins without aggravating a Japanese public mesmerized by the case. Or, if prosecutors reject a plea agreement, Jenkins could be tried in a public court-martial.

Another option: Jenkins could request an other-than-honorable discharge in lieu of a court-martial, known as a Chapter 10. Government prosecutors would have to agree to such a settlement.

Neither military prosecutors nor defense attorneys have indicated publicly which way the case is likely to go. So far, the U.S. military hasn't requested custody of Jenkins, 64, but is compiling a case against him. He is charged with desertion and espionage. In 1996, North Korea confirmed he and three other Americans thought to have defected in the 1960s were alive, although Jenkins reportedly said Japanese officials two of the three are dead.

Jenkins, from Rich Square, N.C., disappeared on a freezing night while on ambush patrol in the DMZ on Jan. 5, 1965. He later was seen in propaganda films. In 1996, North Korea confirmed he and three other Americans thought to have defected in the 1960s were alive, although Jenkins reportedly said Japanese officials two of the three are dead.

But the bizarre tale went further when Japanese Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi traveled to

North Korea in September 2002 to inquire about reported North Korean abductions of Japanese citizens. North Korean ruler Kim Jong Il admitted to 13 abductions.

In 1980, Jenkins — teaching English at the time — married Hitomi Soga, abducted by North Korean agents in 1978 to teach Japanese to the country's spies. They have two children, Mika, 21, and Belinda, 18.

Jenkins may hold an intelligence trump card: 39 years of living in North Korea. That knowledge could be crucial to his defense, said James B. Craven III, a Durham, N.C.-based attorney retained by Jenkins' family and working the case for free.

"He's got to be debriefed," Craven said. "Presumably he won't object to that."

A plea would be leveraged on that knowledge, Craven said.

"We want the criminal charges to go away in some fashion without any compromise."

But Craven, a retired Navy lawyer, has never met with Jenkins. Jenkins has met with Capt. James Culp, a military defense attorney based in South Korea. Culp is with Trial Defense Service, which provides no-cost counsel to military clients accused of crimes. Neither Culp, a Berkeley law graduate and former infantryman, nor TDS officials would comment for this story.

Jenkins, who left North Korea last month and now is receiving medical treatment in Japan, has been closely sequestered by Japanese authorities. Craven said he spoke about two weeks ago with a Pentagon legal official who had a copy of Jenkins' charge sheet but would not send it to him.

The Associated Press has reported that Jenkins' company com-



Alleged U.S. Army deserter Sgt. Charles Robert Jenkins, shown in this 2002 photo, remains hospitalized in Japan. Little is being said publicly about how the United States will address charges against him.

mander approved a charge sheet on March 15, 1965. It contends that Jenkins "did, on or about 5 January 1965, without proper authority and with intent to remain away permanently, absent himself from his organization," the AP reported.

That commander, Darrell E. Best, said Tuesday from his home in Hampton, Va., that he and Jenkins initially talked after discovering they both served in the same Germany-based Army unit at different times, Best said.

Jenkins was in his unit for only about three weeks before he disappeared on his first DMZ ambush patrol, Best said. After Jenkins dis-

appeared, "Three or four weeks later he talked to us on the loud-speaker system the North Koreans had set up," said Best, 69, who retired as a lieutenant colonel.

"As far as I'm concerned he's still a deserter, and they've probably got a room reserved for him at Fort Leavenworth," Best said. "I feel sorry for his Japanese wife but not for him. In the old days we used to shoot people who did that."

Jenkins' family argues that, like Soga, he could have been abducted. But Best said during tense negotiations along the DMZ, the North Koreans were more interested in killing Americans than abducting them.

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Navy still searching for pilots of crashed jet

By JENNIFER H. SVAN

Stars and Stripes

Military crews continued their search Thursday for four Navy aviators whose S-3B Viking jet crashed into a small, uninhabited volcanic island north of Two Jima on Tuesday night.

"Right now I can tell you that the search continues," 1st Cmdr. Marc Boyd, a 7th Fleet spokesman, said Thursday afternoon. "It's a tragic event. Of course our thoughts and prayers go out to the families."

The Navy has not released the San Diego-based aviators' names. The plane's wreckage was discovered on Kita Jima after the pilots failed to return to the aircraft carrier USS John C. Stennis Tuesday night — the first night of a four-day western Pacific joint training exercise involving the Stennis and the USS Kitty Hawk.

An update on the search efforts was to be published on the "Navy NewsStand" Web page at www.news.navy.mil on Thursday night, a Navy official said, but as of midnight no new information had been posted.

Kitty Hawk's aviators rescued with the search-and-rescue work. The San Diego Tribune reported that inspecting the wreckage and searching the island may be difficult because Kita Jima — sometimes spelled "Kita Two Jima" — is the top of a volcano that extends 250 feet above the Pacific Ocean.

Nancy Montgomery contributed to this report.

E-mail Jennifer H. Svan at: svanh@stripes.osd.mil

Misawa bar off-limits after multiple fights

BY JENNIFER H. SVAN
Stars and Stripes

MISAWA AIR BASE, Japan — A Misawa city bar operated by an American is off-limits to military personnel here following what base officials call a rash of fights at the establishment and threats made by bar owner Scott Sanders.

Brig. Gen. Bill Rew, the 35th Fighter Wing and installation commander, signed the order a week ago Friday banning all military personnel assigned to Misawa — including tenant commands — from American Bar, said 35th Security Forces Squadron Commander Maj. Joe Milner.

Police just now are starting to enforce the edict since it was announced by unit commanders and on American Forces Network radio and television this week.

Milner said the general's decision was based on several factors: "There were some threats against the base populace from the American Bar owner, as well as quite a few incidents of military personnel involved in assaults among themselves and with the owner," he said. "[This is] for the safety of the bar owner and our servicemembers' safety."

Sanders, a 42-year-old retired defense contractor who has lived in Japan since 1985, calls the ban and the base's accusations against him "absolutely ridiculous."

"This is as bad as an innocent person being shot," he said, speaking by phone from what he characterized as his very empty downtown bar Thursday night.

"I've been in the bar business

for seven years and I've never had this problem," Sanders said.

Milner said more than 10 assaults have been reported at the American Bar in recent memory, though none resulted in serious injury.

Milner said the latest incident, two weeks ago, involved allegations of assault and stolen money. Sanders also threatened military members along the lines of "somebody's going to get hurt," Milner said. "That added a secondary level."

According to Sanders' version, the incident involved a drunken lieutenant and staff sergeant, both Air Force members. They got into a scuffle and "started swinging, knocking drinks onto the floor, breaking glass," Sanders said.

They ended up taking off without paying their 2600 yen (about \$23) bar tab and stole 5000 yen (about \$45) left on the counter for a liquor vendor, Sanders alleged.

Sanders was mad, so he left a message on the commander's access line to report the theft, he said. He believes his complaint was wrongly taken to be a threat.

Milner said his police will keep an eye on the place. Any military member seen leaving American Bar will be arrested for failure to obey an order. Possible consequences will be determined by one's commander but range from verbal counseling to an Article 15, he said.

Civilians and spouses are encouraged not to patronize the bar but the order isn't legally binding on them, Milner said.

No other bars in Misawa are off-limits to military personnel.

E-mail Jennifer H. Svan at: svan@pstrpipes.osd.mil

AAFES, Napster team up to offer discounts

Servicemembers can save 10 percent on CDs

BY SCOTT SCHONAUER
Stars and Stripes

NAVAL STATION ROTA, Spain — Online music vendor Napster announced Wednesday that it will offer U.S. servicemembers discounted rates on its digital tracks and subscription service.

The company has struck a deal with the Army and Air Force Exchange Service that will give more than 11.5 million active, reserve and retired military personnel and their families access to 750,000 tracks at reduced prices.

"People are looking for a legal source for downloadable music," said John McWhorter, AAFES general merchandiser manager, by telephone from Dallas. "And with our customer base, we have troops that are stationed all over the world in remote locations, this is a just good situation for

us."

Napster's usual fee to download a single track is 99 cents, according to its Web site. Exchange customers can download a song for 88 cents each, an 11 percent discount, McWhorter said. Napster's fee to download an entire

music through the Military Star Card credit card or other accepted credit cards.

AAFES began looking to team up with a music downloading service because customers had asked for it, McWhorter said. Digital MP3 players have become big sellers at AAFES stores worldwide.

Angela Terry, AAFES vice president for direct marketing, said offering music through the Internet will

allow them to satisfy the music demands of overseas personnel or those deployed around the world.

"You know, we have a lot of different sized stores out there and they can't always carry deep catalogues of music," Terry said. "This provides us an alternative to providing that deep catalogue to our customers no matter where they are."

E-mail Scott Schonauer at: schonauer@mail.strips.osd.mil



CD is about \$9.95, but AAFES customers can grab an CD online for about \$8.95, about 10 percent cheaper. For \$8.95, servicemembers can get Napster's subscription service, which normally costs \$9.95, according to its Web site.

Customers can access Napster through www.CentricMail.com, a Web site with 40 online vendors available to authorized exchange customers. They can pay for the

Japanese refuse to indict Stars and Stripes worker

BY VINCE LITTLE
Stars and Stripes

TOKYO — The civilian manager of the Stars and Stripes commercial print shop in Tokyo could lose his job and be sent back to the United States, Camp Zama officials said Thursday, although no administrative actions have been indicated.

Gary Feller, 54, was arrested July 20 on suspicion of theft and had been detained at the Ikegami Police Station in Tokyo.

He was released into U.S. custody Tuesday, when Japanese officials declined to indict him on larceny charges, said Maj. John Amburge, a U.S. Army Japan spokesman.

While a military police investigation continues, the U.S. military has no criminal prosecution authority over Feller, Amburge said. The Uniform Code of Military Justice applies only to active-duty military personnel.

Defense Department civilian employees accused of crimes committed on foreign soil may be

prosecuted in U.S. district courts.

On July 27, Camp Zama military investigators searched Feller's room at Hardy Barracks, adjacent to the newspaper's offices at the Akasaka Press Center.

After his Tuesday release, Feller was questioned by military police investigators at Camp Zama, then released to his quarters at Hardy Barracks, according to Stars and Stripes general manager John Panasiwicz.

He declined to discuss any actions Stars and Stripes now might take in connection with Feller, citing the privacy act.

Any actions taken against Feller by U.S. officials at this point might be administrative in nature, Amburge said, adding that such possibilities include being terminated as a non-appropriated funds employee or being barred from U.S. military installations in Japan.

Feller came to Stars and Stripes from the United States in February.

E-mail Vince Little at: little@pstrpipes.osd.mil

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U.N. Security Council extends mission in Iraq

The Associated Press

UNITED NATIONS — The U.N. Security Council unanimously approved a resolution Thursday to extend the U.N. mission in Iraq for a year, but how significant a role the world body can play remains in question because of continuing insecurity in the country.

The resolution adopted 15-0 by the council reaffirms "that the United Nations should play a leading role in assisting the Iraqi people and government in the formation of institutions for representative government."

But Secretary-General Kofi Annan made clear to the council in a report Friday that the United Nations will remain "a high-priority" target for attacks in Iraq for the foreseeable future, which will severely limit the number of staff the United Nations will allow in the country.

The new envoy to Iraq, Ashraf Jhangir Qazi of Pakistan, is expected to take up his post in Baghdad this week with a small team, giving the United Nations an official presence in Iraq for the first time since October.

The secretary-general ordered all U.N. international staff to leave then following two bombings at U.N. headquarters in Baghdad and a spate of attacks on humanitarian workers. The first bombing, on Aug. 19, 2003, killed the U.N. envoy, Sergio Vieira de Mello, and 21 others.

The Security Council has given the United Nations a major role in helping Iraq's new interim government prepare for two rounds of elections and draft

a constitution, and the council would also like the world body to be a major player in Iraq's reconstruction. But it said the world body should take on the roles "as circumstances permit."

The resolution says the council will review the mandate of the U.N. mission in a year, or sooner if requested by the government of Iraq.

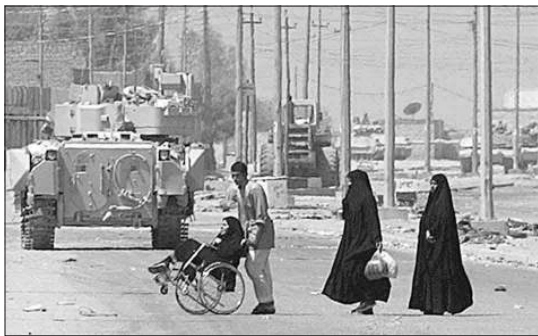
Annan said Qazi's primary task will be to assist the Iraqis in political activities leading to the establishment of a constitutionally elected government by Dec. 31, 2005. He said Qazi would arrive in Baghdad before a national conference of political, religious and civic leaders gets under way on Sunday.

Pakistan's U.N. Ambassador Munir Akram, a council member, said the unanimous vote for the resolution is "an indication of the continual commitment of the United Nations and of the Security Council to play a role in bringing peace and stability to Iraq."

"Beyond that, of course, the whole issue of how significant a role the U.N. can play still depends on the security environment," he said. "So we will have to see how the security situation evolves and what kind of role the U.N. will be able to play, both directly and indirectly in Iraq."

The Arab League's U.N. observer, ambassador Yahya Mahmassani, said the U.N. mission "is in a very difficult situation."

"Security is the main obstacle. You cannot send a mission when there is insecurity, lawlessness, chaos. If you can't provide security for the mission, that's a big problem," he said.



An Iraqi pushes a Shiite woman in a wheelchair past American armored vehicles lining up on the streets, while civilians flee amid heavy gun battles resonating throughout the city of Najaf, Iraq, on Thursday.

U.S. forces storm house of radical Shiite cleric American and Iraqi troops launch a major assault on militia in Najaf

BY TODD PITMAN

The Associated Press

NAJAF, Iraq — U.S. forces stormed a Najaf house belonging to a radical Shiite cleric who had led a deadly uprising against coalition and Iraqi troops for more than a week, as American and Iraqi soldiers launched a major assault Thursday on his militia-men.

Explosions and gunfire echoed near the revered Imam Ali shrine and its vast cemetery.

Residents saw U.S. forces break into Maghda al-Sadr's house without meeting any resistance. Al-Sadr, who has vowed to fight "until the last drop of my blood has been spilled," was not there at the time.

It was not immediately known where he went, but residents reported clashes between Iraqi police and members of his Mahdi Army militia near the house Wednesday, which may have prompted most residents to leave the area.

Also, Iraqi Prime Minister Ayad Allawi called on Shiite militants to put down their weapons and leave the shrine, where they have sought refuge.

"Our government calls upon all the armed groups to drop their weapons and return to society. We also call upon all the armed men to evacuate the holy shrine and not to violate its holiness," he said.

Coalition forces were trying to crush the uprising in Najaf and other Shiite strongholds across the country.

"Major operations to destroy the militia have begun," said Maj. David Holahan, executive officer of the 1st Battalion, 4th Marine Regiment.

U.S. military rules for embedded journalists, reporters are not allowed to reveal exact numbers of U.S. troops, details of planned offensives or other information considered relevant to operational security.

Raqi National Security Adviser Mouwaffaq al-Rubaie went to Najaf to deal with the situation, his office said without elaborating.

U.S. military Humvees had moved toward al-Sadr's house and fought with militants there, witnesses said. A large fire raged across the street and at least two helicopters flew above the area.

A column of U.S. tanks lined one edge of the huge cemetery sprawling out from the Imam Ali mosque as a helicopter flew overhead. Soldiers crawled on the roofs of single-story buildings to fire at militants.

Interior Minister Falah Hassan al-Naqib said militants fired mortars from the shrine compound and planted mines there. He also reiterated that no foreign forces would be allowed to enter the shrine.

By afternoon, five civilians had been killed, said Nabil Mohammed, a health worker in Najaf. Two soldiers were wounded by a mortar shell while standing in an intersection on the cemetery's edge, the military said.

Meanwhile, fighting between al-Sadr supporters and coalition forces killed at least 72 Iraqis in

the southern city of Kut on Wednesday in one of the most intense battles in that city in months. Iraqi forces fought off militants who attacked the city hall, police stations and Iraqi National Guard barracks, the U.S. military said.

Residents in Kut, 100 miles southeast of Baghdad, said U.S. and Iraqi troops fought the militants. The U.S. military said only Iraqi forces were involved.

Iraq's top Shiite Muslim cleric, Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani, who left Najaf for London to undergo medical treatment when the fighting began a week ago, expressed "deep sorrow and great worry" and called on all sides to resolve the crisis as soon as possible and prevent it from repeating.

Al-Sistani said in a statement that his office was "continuing to exert efforts with all sides, Iraqi officials and others, to put a quick end to the current tragic situation."

Lebanon's most senior Shiite Muslim cleric, Grand Ayatollah Mohammed Hussein Fadlallah, criticized Iraq's interim government for allowing the offensive in a city that is holy to the world's 120 million Shiites.

The fighting in Najaf risks enraging Iraq's Shiite majority — including those who do not support al-Sadr's uprising — if it targets the shrine.

U.S. commanders and Iraqi officials said Allawi would have to approve any operation at the shrine itself and any move at the shrine would be conducted only by Iraqi forces.

Associated Press writer Abdul Hussein al-Obaidi in Najaf contributed to this report.

Helicopter crash kills 2 Marines near Fallujah

FALLUJAH, Iraq — Two U.S. Marines were killed when a CH-53 helicopter crashed landed in Anbar province, the military said Thursday.

Three other people were injured in the crash on Wednesday night, and evacuated to a military medical facility and treated for injuries.

The helicopter was flying into Anbar province, a volatile, Sunni-dominated region west of Baghdad "in support of security and stabilization operations" when it crashed, the military said in a statement.

The military said that no enemy fire was observed at the time of the crash, and it was investigating the incident.

Group claims it has more hostages in Iraq

BAHGDAD — A militant group in Iraq said it has seized a group of Arab truck drivers transporting electrical supplies and other equipment to U.S. forces here, according to video shown early Friday on the pan-Arab Al-Jazeera television station.

The group, calling itself "The Master of Martyrs," did not appear to make any demands or threats, according to the report.

The video showed three men, who identified themselves as Osama Moneer Eissa, from Syria, and two men from Lebanon, Tarek Mohammed Jundi and Khalid Othman. The men were shown surrounded by masked gunmen.

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Court-martial begins for Army officer in SUV theft

The Associated Press

FORT CAMPBELL, Kentucky — An Army lieutenant allegedly ordered his soldiers to find him a vehicle after his broke down, then tried to cover up the theft of a sleek's sport utility vehicle in Iraq, military prosecutors said.

In opening statements Wednesday at the court-martial of 1st Lt. Bradley Pavlik, prosecutor Capt. Howard Hooge said the officer "led his platoon down a road of misconduct."

Pavlik's civilian attorney, Frank Spinner, said the officer was just sticking up for his soldiers, and that he later tried to turn the stolen vehicle in to the Army. Spinner said it was refused.

It appears that Lt. Pavlik's platoon led him down a path," Spinner said.

In July, a soldier in Pavlik's platoon, Sgt. 1st Class James Will-

iams, 37, was convicted of stealing the SUV in April 2003; the jury recommended he serve no prison time.

At his trial Williams said he took the vehicle only because Pavlik ordered him to, and that he didn't think it was a criminal act.

Early in the war, soldiers were allowed to "commandeer" civilian vehicles for military purposes under the rules of engagement.

They were instructed to leave a receipt so the vehicle could be returned to the owner or money could be given to them.

Williams said Pavlik was angry when his own vehicle had broken down and told squad leaders to find him another.

The SUV was taken without force but no receipt was left.

The Army later paid Sheikh Ahmed W. Al-Faisal \$32,000.

A second soldier in the platoon served a year in prison for his role in the theft.

GI dies as Black Hawk crashes in Afghanistan

By JON R. ANDERSON

Stars and Stripes

KANDAHAR AIRFIELD, Afghanistan — An Army UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter slanting U.S. Marines crashed in eastern Afghanistan on Thursday afternoon, killing one crewmember and injuring 14 troops.

The crash was not a result of hostile fire, said Lt. Col. Susan Meisner, an Army spokeswoman in Kabul. The transportation helicopter was destroyed.

Initial military reports indicated that the dead servicemember was a Marine. Meisner, however, confirmed that the fatality was a soldier, one of the four crewmembers aboard the Black Hawk.

The accident occurred in Khost province at about 2:45 p.m. along Afghanistan's mountainous frontier with Pakistan, said Meisner. She said the aircraft was on a routine mission and not involved in combat operations.

The injured Army crew and Marines were evacuated to Forward Operating Base Salerno in Khost. Because of their injuries, four of

the troops were then medevaced to the Army surgical hospital at Bagram Air Base, the main hub for U.S. operations in Afghanistan.

The only major Marine unit currently in Afghanistan is the 3rd Battalion, 6th Marines from Camp Lejeune, N.C. The unit is based at FOB Salerno.

Soldiers from 2nd Battalion, 25th Infantry Regiment — part of the Hawaii-based 25th Infantry Division — provide the vast majority of Black Hawk helicopters in the country.

Fullly loaded, Black Hawks carry a crew of four and 11 passengers.

Meisner said the cause of the accident was under investigation.

This is the fourth fatal helicopter crash in Afghanistan since the U.S. invasion almost three years ago. All of the crashes have been accidents.

The last occurred on Nov. 23, 2003, when an Air Force MH-53 Pave Low crashed near Bagram, killing one soldier and three airmen.

E-mail Jon R. Anderson at: andersonj@mail.strips.com

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IN THE WORLD

India fears lake may burst

Water-logged nation on alert; thousands threatened

BY NIRMALA GEORGE

The Associated Press

NEW DELHI — Army soldiers and air force helicopters were on alert Thursday in northern India amid fears that a lake in the Chinese Himalayas could burst its banks, triggering cross-border floods and threatening thousands of people.

Aerial surveys — and a warning by China's government — indicated the lake formed by a massive landslide blocking the Parachu River in Tibet is close to overflowing, threatening hundreds of villages in India's Himachal Pradesh state.

Chinese engineers on Thursday carried out restricted dynamite blasts at the lake to let out controlled amounts of water, Chinese Embassy spokeswoman Yang Shuying said. "This will reduce the danger of the lake bursting its sides," she said.

The state has evacuated thousands of people from 50 villages that are likely to be submerged if the lake breaches its banks, said top government official Munish Garg.

Chinese authorities, who have been monitoring the lake since the landslide last month, have warned India to "make preparations for disaster prevention," Yang said.

India's army and air force have set up teams of doctors, technicians and engineers in an emergency, army spokesman Col. S.K. Sakhuja said.

A similar temporary lake formed and overflowed in August 2000, killing more than 100 people in Himachal Pradesh.

Since monsoon rains and flooding began in June, at least 2,070 people have died in South Asia, according to official figures compiled by The Associated Press.

Most of the deaths, 1,215, have occurred in India, with 726 killed in Bangladesh, 124 in



Nepal and five in Pakistan as a result of drowning, mudslides, house collapses and waterborne diseases.

The latest reported deaths were in Bangladesh, where nine people died, said Shahin Sultana at Dhaka's flood control center. While floodwaters, which inundated two-thirds of the country, are receding, people are still dying from waterborne diseases and drownings.

The United Nations has launched an appeal for \$210 million in international aid for Bangladesh, where nine people died, said Shahin Sultana at Dhaka's flood control center. While floodwaters, which inundated two-thirds of the country, are receding, people are still dying from waterborne diseases and drownings.

"Millions of people in Bangladesh are now facing grave food insecurity and health risks after one of the worst floods ever seen here," U.N. Resident Coordinator Jorgen Lissner said in Dhaka, the capital of Bangladesh.

The proposed aid will be needed to "help the very poor survive the next six months," Lissner said.



AP photos

Above: A child sits with his father at a relief camp for flood victims in Kamrangir Char, a suburb of Dhaka, Bangladesh, on Thursday. United Nations agencies were meeting with foreign donors and government officials in Dhaka on Wednesday to assess the flood damage and relief and rehabilitation needs, in preparation for an aid appeal that the U.N. intends to launch next week. Left: Seventh-grade student Puja Balshya reads in the middle of a circle of students outside the Dolbari Middle School, which was submerged in recent flood waters.

Rumsfeld thanks U.S. ally

Azerbaijani president praised for war effort

The Associated Press

BAKU, Azerbaijan — Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld thanked Azerbaijan President Ilham Aliyev on Thursday for his country's support in the war on terrorism.

Rumsfeld spoke with Aliyev on a trip to visit U.S. allies in the region.

"We value that relationship, the cooperation that your country has demonstrated from the very outset of the global war on terror, your valuable assistance, effective assistance in both Iraq and Afghanistan," Rumsfeld said.

Defense Minister Gen. Col. Safar Abiyev assured Rumsfeld that his country is committed to keeping 150 soldiers in Iraq.

Azerbaijan is the only predominantly Muslim country that has contributed troops to the multinational coalition in Iraq. Azerbaijan also has 22 troops in Afghanistan.

"We are two allies, we work together on a variety of issues of world importance, including in our mutual agreement in the energy project, participating in creating a more secure and safe world, our contribution to regional stability and peace in the region," Aliyev said, speaking in English.

Azerbaijan is seeking U.S. support in modernizing its military and resolving a long-standing territorial dispute with Armenia.

The United States, meanwhile, is appealing to Caspian Sea nations like Azerbaijan and Kazakhstan as foils to Iran, which also borders on the oil-rich sea, and as sources of oil and gas — as well as export routes — that circumvent Russia and the Middle East.

Libya rejects U.S. demand for bombing compensation

The Associated Press

TRIPOLI, Libya — Libya on Wednesday rejected a call from the United States for compensation for U.S. victims of a 1986 Berlin hotel/disco bombing, a day after Tripoli signed a settlement for non-American victims.

Libya and Libyan officials signed a \$35 million agreement Tuesday for 170 non-U.S. victims of the April 5, 1986, bombing in western Berlin.

The attack killed three, including two U.S. servicemen, and injured more than 200.

Wounded Germans and the family of a slain Turkish woman were covered by the deal. Lawyers are seeking separate compensation in U.S. courts for American victims.

On Tuesday, State Department spokesman Adam Ereli welcomed news of the accord but emphasized claims of U.S. victims must be resolved.

But Libyan Foreign Ministry spokesman

Hassouna al-Shawish rejected Ereli's call.

"America instead should compensate Libyan families who lost dozens of their children in the war launched by [former President Ronald] Reagan on Libyan cities," he said in comments carried by Libya's official news agency.

American fighters bombed Tripoli and Benghazi in 1986, attacks that Libya says killed 41 and injured 226.

The raids were ordered by Reagan after the Berlin disco bombing.

South Africans stare down street criminals

BY LAURIE GOERING

Chicago Tribune

CAPE TOWN, South Africa — Fed up with drug dealing and prostitution in their seaside district, the residents of Cape Town's Sea Point have come up with a remarkable new weapon against crime: the stare.

Several nights a week, residents gather in the parking lot of the civic center, don yellow vests and head into the streets. On foot, they simply stop nearby and stare, en masse, until the offender moves on — or at least all of his or her clients do.

Four months ago, residents, concerned about their increasing, seedy commercial strip and foundering property values, decided to take action. New man in

Cape Town had pulled shops away from Sea Point, leaving 70 vacant storefronts on Main Street. Gangs, drugs and prostitution had moved in, and residents no longer felt safe walking out at night for a burger or Indian curry.

Police say the effort is working. Since the patrols began, crime has "showed a downward trend," said Capt. Eugene Sitzer, a spokesman for the South African Police Service.

The jovial walkers, who stay together and can call on police officers to arrest any bona fide criminals, have had more comic moments than close calls.

One evening the group shone a flashlight into an overturned shopping cart only to find a homeless man curled inside wearing a frilly shower cap. He had decided

out the oversized cart with curtains and a mattress, and simply got up and wheeled his bedroom away as the group looked on.

Walkers also have found drug stashes in bushes, directed the homeless to shelters and been called every name imaginable by frustrated streetwalkers.

"One hears derogatory things about one's mother, but we've heard all that before," said John Ford, owner of a gourmet food shop.

Volunteer patrol members say there's plenty of compensation — beyond avoiding a night of boring television at home — for their work.

Home prices are rising since the effort began, homes that couldn't be sold now have buyers and vacancies on the commercial strip have fallen by 40 percent,



JEFFREY BARBER, CHICAGO TRIBUNE/RET

The Sea Point Community Police Forum, or Yellow Bibs, stake out an alleged drug dealer in Cape Town, South Africa. J.P. Smith, left, is very active in the patrols. The group credits itself with a large reduction in street crime.

said Alex Nkomo, head of the Sea Point retailer's association.

"Crime directly affects our bottom line, so we've put our full

force behind this," he said. "When people work together, they can do something about the degradation of an area."

Robots represent fun, friends in Japan

BY YURI KAGEYAMA
The Associated Press

KAWASAKI, Japan — The ring sits in the spotlight of a tense, packed auditorium and the jittery fighters await the bell at their red and blue corners.

Like any fight, there's always the danger of a punishing uppercut or left hook. But these boxers have even more worries — like battery failure and software bugs.

The contenders are robots fighting in a special kickboxing match that's held twice a year in Japan, a leading nation in the robotics world.

The all-for-fun event is evidence not only of an infatuation with robots here but also of the widely accepted view of robots as entertaining figures.

It's a contrast to other nations, where robots are increasingly being used in warfare and robots often are considered creepy threats.

"For me, robots are for making people happy," said Yusuke Sugawara, a 32-year-old engineer whose robot wore a fluffy wig and blew bubbles from a fake snorkel when people clapped. "Japanese people all love robots. Inside our hearts, we all want to make robots that we grew up watching on TV cartoons."

Robo-One, begun four years ago to stimulate public interest in robots, is loosely based on K-1, a popular sport that combines elements of kickboxing, karate and taekwondo.

The Sixth Robo-One Contest during a recent weekend drew some 90 robots running on software developed by amateurs from across

Japan and South Korea to a hall in Kawasaki, southwest of Tokyo.

According to Robo-One rules, a robot that gets pulled, pushed or punched down must get up on its feet before the referee counts to 10 to avoid a knockout.

Shining in bright colors, the robots, mostly measuring about 16 inches tall, look like fancy toys and sport comic-book names like Typhoon SP, Dynamizer2 and Majingaa.

They sometimes become entangled and tumble off the ring together onto the cushions on the floor. A fall from the ring counts as two knockdowns, with three knockdowns resulting in a loss just like a knockout.

With robots, the count to 10 also starts when a machine freezes in mid-action on its feet. If it collapses by accident on its own and can't get up before the count to 10, that's a knockout as well.

"The technological advances have been amazing over the years," says Naohiro Hayashi of robot-maker and Robo-One participant Vstone, who has attended the matches from their inception.

The fight money isn't stingy at Robo-One, which has drawn corporate sponsors, including major Tokyo-based toymaker Bandai Co. and 20th Century Fox. Its science-fiction thriller movie "I, Robot," is soon to be released in Japan.

This year's winner, the 11 lb. Humanoid Project from Kyushu University, outmuscled rivals, collecting \$9,000. The runner-up was awarded \$1,800.



This year's winner robot 2325-RV, developed by the Humanoid Project from Kyushu University, gives its opponent HAJIME ROBOT developed by Hajime Sakamoto a right blow during the semifinal match of the Sixth Robo-One Contest in Kawasaki, Japan, on Sunday. Some 90 robots running on software developed by amateurs from across Japan and South Korea competed.

Nepal court sentences confessed serial killer to life

BY BINAJ GURUBACHARYA
The Associated Press

KATMANDU, Nepal — A Nepal court sentenced a confessed serial killer known as "The Serpent" to life in prison Thursday for murdering two Western backpackers in 1975.

Charles Sobhraj, who was given his nickname because of his talent for disguise and escape, is be-

lieved to have killed at least 20 people in Afghanistan, India, Thailand, Turkey, Nepal, Iran and Hong Kong.

Sobhraj was held for two decades in New Delhi's maximum-security Tihar prison but was deported without charge to his home country of France in 1997. Sobhraj resurfaced in Nepal's capital, Katmandu, in September and was arrested at a posh casino.

After a trial that lasted several months, Sobhraj was convicted of murdering two Western backpackers in Nepal, Katmandu District Court Judge Bisowmath Shrestha said. Their charred bodies were found on the outskirts of Katmandu in 1975.

"I am shocked. I was found guilty without any witnesses and evidence... I did not get a chance to defend myself," Sobhraj said

after sentencing. "How can I defend on a case where there is no proper process? It was an unfair trial."

Sobhraj's lawyer, Sanjeev Ghimire, said an appeal will be filed with the Appellate Court on Friday.

"The judgment came as a surprise when there are no witnesses and no credible evidence against my client. We will file an appeal,"

Ghimire said.

Sobhraj, 59, has admitted in the past to killing Western tourists but this was his first murder conviction. He also faces charges for allegedly using a fake passport to enter Nepal in 1975.

Sobhraj also has been accused of a string of murders of young tourists across Asia and the Middle East in the 1970s.

Film may help man who inspired it

The Associated Press

ROISSY, France — He has no address but his mail arrives just the same. The pharmacy takes his phone calls and the cluster of fast food restaurants assures a steady flow of food, handouts included.

Mehran Karimi Nasseri, for years a stateless person, inhabits a Kafkaesque world. A perpetual passenger stuck in transit, he has lived in Terminal 1 of Paris' Charles de Gaulle Airport for the past 16 years.

But change is afoot. His quirky story inspired Steven Spielberg's movie "The Terminal" starring Tom Hanks. It put money in Mehran's pocket and could be the ticket to a new life — if he chooses.

"Here, it's not life. It's just staying like a passenger and waiting for departure," said Mehran, who goes by the name Alfred Mehran. "To be here is just being in transit."

Gaunt and mustachioed, Mehran, 59, of British and Iranian parents, has ceded the rights to his story to Spielberg, according to the office of Mehran's lawyer, Christian Bourgeois. The price of the deal was confidential, the lawyer's office said.

Mehran claimed the deal with Spielberg's DreamWorks SKG was worth \$450,000 and said it covers event books, television shows and movies over a 10-year period. Despite several calls to DreamWorks, the information could not be immediately confirmed.

Mehran becomes confused by his own confusing history. He has taken to saying that he hails from Florida and never had parents at all.

Accounts of his life vary, but Mehran is known to have been imprisoned in Iran for demonstrating against now-deposed Shah Mohammed Reza Pahlavi,



Mehran Karimi Nasseri, 59, who calls himself Alfred Mehran and inspired Steven Spielberg's movie "The Terminal," sits among his belongings at Terminal 1 of Paris' Charles de Gaulle Airport on Wednesday.

then expelled without a passport.

In 1981, the U.N. High Commission for Refugees in Belgium gave him refugee credentials, but his briefcase containing the precious papers was stolen in a Paris train station.

In August 1988, he turned up at the airport hoping to fly to Britain — without a passport. With no country to which he could be deported, he has been at the airport ever since.

Turkey train crash prompts calls for official to resign

BY SUZAN FRASER
The Associated Press

ANKARA, Turkey — Turkey's third deadly train accident in as many weeks triggered fresh calls Thursday for the resignation of the country's transport minister, accused by many of mismanagement.

Railway officials said a passenger train from Ankara to Istanbul sped past a red stop signal and rammed into an oncoming train in Wednesday's crash near the village of Tavşanlı, about 50 miles east of Istanbul. The accident killed eight people and injured 88 others, officials said.

The collision once more highlighted problems in Turkey's aging rail network, where some tracks date back to the 19th century and have seen little improvements.

Opposition lawmakers blamed the crash on poor management of the rail system and renewed their calls for Transport Minister Binali Yildirim to resign.

"If he doesn't resign now, then when?" asked Kemal Anadol, a lawmaker from the opposition Republican People's Party. "How many more people must die before he resigns?" said Ali Topuz, another legislator.

The accident comes just three weeks after a newly inaugurated high-speed train from Istanbul to Ankara, killed, killed 37 people — one of the worst train accidents in Turkey. The July 22 derailment — which occurred about 60 miles from Wednesday's crash — was a major embarrassment to the government of Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan, who personally launched the train in June. The government has undertaken three separate investigations into that accident.

Three days after the derailment, a passenger train slammed into a minibus at a western railroad crossing, killing 15 people and injuring four others.

Yildirim has rejected the calls to step down.

IN THE STATES

Calif. Supreme Court voids gay marriages

BY DAVID KRAVETS
The Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — The California Supreme Court on Thursday voided the nearly 4,000 same-sex marriages sanctioned in San Francisco this year and ruled unanimously that the mayor overstepped his authority by issuing licenses to gay and lesbian couples.

The court said the city illegally issued the certificates and performed the ceremonies, since state law defined marriage as a union between a man and woman.

The justices separately decided with a 5-2 vote to nullify the 3,995 marriages performed between Feb. 12 and March 11, when the court halted the weddings. Their legality, Justice Joyce Kennard wrote, must wait until couples resolve the constitutional issue of state laws that restrict marriage to opposite-sex couples.

The same-sex marriages had virtually no legal value, but powerful symbolic value. Their nullification by the high court dismayed Del Martin and Phyllis Lyon, the first same-sex couple to receive a marriage license in San Francisco.

"Del is 83 years old and I am 79," Lyon said. "After being together for more than 50 years, it is a terrible blow to have the rights and protections of marriage taken away from us. At our age, we do not have the luxury of time."

About a dozen gay and lesbian couples, some wearing wedding dresses and tuxedos, waited on the steps of the Supreme Court building, and some cried when the

Ruling nullifies nearly 4,000 unions in San Francisco



Molly McKay, right, reads a California Supreme Court ruling to gay couples in San Francisco on Thursday. The decision passed down by the court nullified gay marriages sanctioned by San Francisco. The court ruled Mayor Gavin Newsom overstepped his authority when he issued more than 4,000 same-sex marriage licenses earlier this year.

decision was read.

The court did not resolve whether the California Constitution would permit a same-sex marriage, ruling instead on the

limits of authority regarding local government officials.

Anti-gay-marriage groups hailed the ruling, saying Mayor Gavin Newsom acted

prematurely.

"Instead of helping his cause, Mayor Newsom has set back the same-sex marriage agenda and laid the foundation for the pro-marriage movement to once and for all win this battle to preserve traditional marriage," said Matthew Staver, who represents Campaign for California Families in a lawsuit challenging the San Francisco marriages.

The justices agreed to resolve the legality of the San Francisco weddings after emergency petitions were filed by conservative interest groups and Attorney General Bill Lockyer.

San Francisco's gay weddings, which followed a landmark ruling by Massachusetts' top court allowing gay marriage — prompted President Bush to push for changing the U.S. Constitution to ban same-sex marriage, an effort that has become campaign fodder this election year.

The California court sided with Lockyer's arguments, ruling that Newsom's actions would sanction local officials to legislate state law from city halls or county government centers.

When the justices agreed to hear the case, they said they would decide only whether Newsom overstepped his mayoral powers for now, but would entertain a constitutional challenge — that gays should be treated the same as heterosexual couples under the California Constitution — if such a lawsuit reached the court.

Justin Brown, 8, of Hopedale, Ill., wears winter gear during cold weather at Wrigley Field before the game between the Chicago Cubs and the San Diego Padres on Thursday.



Frigid weather sweeps through Midwest

BY LISA SCHENCKER
The Associated Press

CHICAGO — People across the Midwest have been eating like ice pops instead of eating like ice August because of an arctic cold front from Canada.

Early August is usually one of the steamiest times of the year in the upper Midwest, but from Minnesota to Kentucky, temperatures have been falling to new lows.

While some welcome the cool, refreshing breezes, others are putting in sweaters.

Marcia Wierenga, a visitor from Yardley, Pa., wasn't prepared for downtown Chicago's weather Thursday — temperatures remained in the 50s well into the afternoon.

"I think it's kind of frigid," Wierenga said as she waited in line at the Chicago Art Institute next to a friend who sipped a frozen coffee drink. "I'm here on vacation. I packed T-shirts, shorts and tank tops, and I had to go shopping here because it's so ridiculously cold."

At the Heart of the Valley Golf Course in Ada, Minn., the greens crew had been working in winter jackets this week.

"Some guy came in the other day asking, 'Is it November or August?'" and I said, "I think it might be November," clubhouse worker Emily Stene said.

In Chicago, temperatures reached a mere 59 degrees Thursday afternoon, 14 degrees below average for this time of year. National Weather Service meteorologist Charley Mott said.

Temperatures are expected to climb back into the low 80s in parts of the Midwest early next week, but even that is somewhat cool for this time of year.

Preston Dinwiddie, who poses as a human statue on Chicago's Michigan Avenue, said he prefers the cooler weather.

"It's better so I don't sweat,"

Dinwiddie said as he walked to work wearing a silver suit with silver makeup covering all his visible skin.

Springfield, Champaign and Effingham in central Illinois hit record lows, with temperatures in the mid- and upper 40s Thursday morning, weather service meteorologist Brad Churchill said.

An aquatic center in East Peoria closed Wednesday and Thursday when temperatures there topped out at 59 degrees. In Minneapolis, Wednesday's high crept to 59 degrees, its lowest recorded high for the date.

Temperatures were pushing 70 degrees Thursday afternoon, but that still wasn't good enough for normal summer outdoor play.

Tam Witry of Minneapolis and his 3-year-old son, Ian, were throwing rocks on the beach at Lake Calhoun, not far from downtown.

Witry said they'd normally be swimming.

"If it were 10 degrees warmer, he'd probably have his swimsuit on," Witry said.

Instead, Ian was wearing a turndown and red polar fleece sweat pants.

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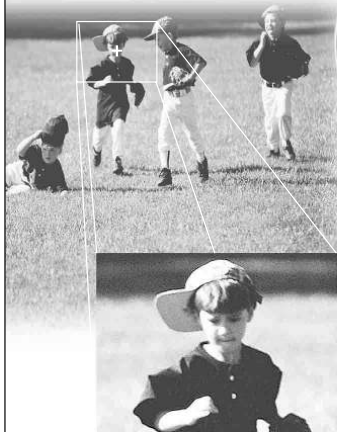
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N.J. governor announces resignation

Democrat admits he had an extramarital affair with another man

BY JOHN P. MCALPIN
The Associated Press

TRENTON, N.J. — In a stunning declaration, Gov. James E. McGreevey announced his resignation Thursday and acknowledged that he had an extramarital affair with another man.

"My truth is that I am a gay American," he said.

"Shamefully, I engaged in adult consensual affairs with another man, which violates my bonds of matrimony," the married father of two said at a news conference. "It was wrong, it was foolish, it was inexcusable."

The Democrat said his resignation would be effective Nov. 15.

McGreevey, 47, said that "it makes little difference that as governor I am gay," but added that staying in office and keeping the affair and his sexual orientation secret will leave the governor's office "vulnerable to rumors, false allegations and threats of disclosure."

"Given the circumstances surrounding the affair and its likely impact upon my family and my ability to govern, I have decided the right course of action is to resign," he said.

McGreevey did not elaborate on what the circumstances were.

The former suburban mayor took office 2½ years ago, and despite inheriting a \$5 billion budget deficit, he steadfastly refused to boost income taxes for most New Jerseyans.

He instead raised taxes on millionaires, casinos and cigarettes.

But he has been dogged by several scandals involving fund-raising.

Among those caught up in recent

scandals were his first chief of staff and former counsel; a top Democratic fund-raiser and former high school classmate; and real estate developer Charles Kushner, McGreevey's biggest campaign contributor, who was charged with trying to thwart a federal campaign-finance in-

vestigation by luring a grand jury witness — his own brother-in-law — into a compromising position with a prostitute and sending video and photos to the man's wife.

McGreevey is the second governor to announce his resignation in recent weeks, after the resignation in June of Connecticut GOP Gov. John Rowland amid corruption investigations and threats of impeachment.

McGreevey rose from suburban mayor to state chief executive by his tenacious pursuit of party politics, maintaining a power base days after he narrowly lost to Republican Christie Whitman in 1997.

McGreevey never truly stopped that campaign until he won in November 2001, beating Republican Bret Schundler by 15 percentage points.

Born in Jersey City, McGreevey graduated from Columbia University in 1978. He earned a law degree from Georgetown University in 1981 and a master's degree in education from Harvard University a year later.

After briefly serving as a county prosecutor, McGreevey became a lobbyist for a pharmaceutical company, then a state government official.

While in the Legislature, McGreevey voted for Gov. Jim Florio's \$2.8 billion tax hike that prompted a voter rebellion against Democrats.



New Jersey Gov. James McGreevey sits with his daughter Jacqueline at the N.J. delegation breakfast in July, during the Democratic National Convention in Boston. McGreevey announced his resignation on Thursday and acknowledged that he had an extramarital affair with another man.

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Fla. residents brace for double whammy

MacDill residents among 800,000 instructed to evacuate as Hurricane Charley bears down

BY MITCH STACY
The Associated Press

TAMPA, Fla. — Nearly a million residents and tourists were told Thursday to get out of the way of a rapidly strengthening Hurricane Charley, while its weaker sister, Tropical Storm Bonnie, blustered ashore in the Florida Panhandle.

Charley, which had pumped up to nearly 105 mph by early afternoon, was expected to hit the state's west coast Friday, possibly bringing heavy rain, swirling tornadoes and a storm surge of up to 12 feet to the Tampa Bay and Fort Myers areas.

The back-to-back storms — the first to menace the state so close together since 1906 — prompted Gov. Jeb Bush to declare a state of emergency for all of Florida.

There were no reports of heavy rains or flooding in already-soaked areas of the Panhandle after Bonnie's disorganized center made landfall with wind near 50 mph. By midday, Apalachicola looked as if nothing happened. The sun was shining and the surf was calming down.

Charley loomed, however,

prompting evacuation requests for 800,000 residents and tourists along coastal areas from the Florida Keys to Tampa Bay. The evacuations included flood-prone sections of the Tampa-St. Petersburg area. All residents of MacDill Air Force Base on Tampa Bay have been ordered to evacuate, and only essential personnel will remain, spokeswoman Lt. Erin Dorrance said. MacDill is home to U.S. Central Command, the nerve center of the war in Iraq, and the Special Operations Command.

This is Florida's biggest evacuation request since 1999, when Hurricane Floyd brushed the state's east coast and prompted officials to urge a record 1.3 million to evacuate.

Charley, which became a hurricane Wednesday before spinning by Jamaica, was heading past the Cayman Islands on Thursday and was expected to travel over western Cuba on its track toward Florida.

Hurricane watches or warnings were extended to include most of Florida's Gulf Coast, and Charley was predicted to strike the Keys and the Florida Gulf Coast early Friday.

In the Keys, tourists had been told to leave Wednesday, and the order was expanded Thursday to include a mandatory evacuation of mobile homes in the lower Keys.

The lone road to the mainland, the Overseas Highway, was blocked by an accident for more than an hour Thursday morning, slowing the evacuation.

Al Perkins, 55, a small business owner in the Keys, placed office computers and a photocopier in garbage bags while outside a colleague hammered metal hurricane shutters on top of windows. "If it gets over a 150 miles per hour winds, I'm out of here. Anything less than that, I've already been in, so it's not a problem," he said.

Residents along Florida's southwestern coast were preparing for havoc, boarding up homes with plywood and buying supplies such as water, canned food and batteries.

Sarasota resident Beth Cionbor was at a Home Depot loading two sheets of plywood onto her minivan's roof while her 2-year-old son watched.

"I'm on the verge of tears. It's so frightening," Cionbor said.



RED HUBER, ORLANDO SENTINEL/AP

Brian Vail, from Orange County Public Schools, stacks sandbags Thursday in front of the doors at Howard Middle School in downtown Orlando, Fla., in preparation for the possible effects of Hurricane Charley.

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President Bush greets union workers at the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America International Training facility, Thursday in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Bush appeals to Nevada voters angered by nuclear waste dump

BY PETE YOST
The Associated Press

PHOENIX — Facing political fallout from an unpopular decision to put a nuclear waste dump in the state, President Bush is rallying Republican support Thursday in Nevada in hopes of repeating his victory of four years ago.

Bush was campaigning before a friendly labor union, the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners, in Las Vegas, before heading to Santa Monica, Calif., to raise money for the Republican Party.

During a visit to Las Vegas earlier in the week, Democratic rival John Kerry tapped into voter anger over Bush's designation of Yucca Mountain as the nation's nuclear waste repository.

The issue has stirred up such strong feelings in Nevada that it is creating a close race between the

president and the Massachusetts senator, according to recent polls.

Kerry said Bush broke the promise he made as a candidate in 2000 to ensure science and not politics determined his decision whether to ship waste to Yucca Mountain. Bush approved the site after winning the presidency, even though many scientific studies remained unfinished.

The Bush campaign has accused Kerry of switching sides on the issue. Kerry has voted in the Senate for some measures that had provisions to allow nuclear dumps there. But every time he has faced the simple choice of voting whether or not to send waste to Yucca Mountain, Kerry has voted against it.

Sig Rogich, an aide to former Presidents Reagan and Bush, said Kerry is "pinning his hopes" on the Yucca Mountain controversy.

because "there's nothing else" for the Democrat to run on in Nevada.

Adriana Martinez, chair of the Nevada Democratic Party, says Yucca Mountain is a recruiting poster.

"We get several e-mails a day from Republicans saying 'We'd like to volunteer,'" said Martinez. "We definitely have a good shot."

A recent federal appeals court ruling raised questions about whether the waste repository will be built, or at least meet its target of 2010 to begin operation. The court ruled that the federal plan for Yucca Mountain does not go far enough to protect people from potential radiation. Bush's energy secretary, Spencer Abraham, says the project is moving ahead. Environmental groups and lawyers for Nevada say the court's rejection of proposed radiation exposure limits could doom the project.

Cheney criticizes Kerry's call for 'sensitive' war

BY LAURA MECKLER
The Associated Press

DAYTON, Ohio — Vice President Dick Cheney ridiculed John Kerry's call for a "more sensitive" war on terror Thursday, saying it won't impress the Sept. 11 terrorists or the Islamic militants who have beheaded U.S. citizens.

"America has been in too many wars for any of our wishes, but not a one of them was won by being sensitive," Cheney told supporters in this swing state. "... The men who beheaded Daniel Pearl and Paul Johnson will not be impressed by our sensitivity."

He was referring to Kerry's statement last week at a minority journalists' convention in which the Democratic presidential nominee said: "I believe I can fight a

more effective, more thoughtful, more strategic, more proactive, more sensitive war on terror that reaches out to other nations and brings them to our side and lives up to American values in history."

Kerry spokesman Phil Singer said Thursday that Cheney was being disingenuous and twisting Kerry's words. "Dick Cheney's desperate misleading attacks now have him criticizing George Bush's own words, who called for America to be 'sensitive about expressing our power and influence.' Dick Cheney doesn't understand that arrogance isn't a virtue, especially when our country is in danger. ... If Dick Cheney learned this lesson instead of spending his time distorting John

Kerry's words, this country would be a safer place," Singer said.

Cheney also criticized Kerry's record on the Senate Intelligence Committee, saying he missed most of the panel's public hearings and proposed cutting the intelligence budget. The Kerry campaign has noted that the cuts in intelligence came as the Cold War was ending, when Republicans and Democrats were proposing similar reductions.

Cheney said sensitivity is not likely to win a war. "Those who threaten us and kill innocents around the world do not need to be treated more sensitively. They need to be destroyed," he said.

None of the country's military heroes would follow Kerry's advice, he told an audience that included many veterans.

Poll has Kerry leading in Fla.

BY BRENT KALLESTAD
The Associated Press

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. — Democrat John Kerry has taken a slight lead over President Bush in Florida — the essential swing state in the 2000 election — according to a poll out Thursday.

Kerry and running mate John Edwards had the backing of 47 percent, Bush and Vice President Cheney had the support of 41 percent in the Quinnipiac University poll.

Ralph Nader and his running mate Peter Camejo had 4 percent in the Quinnipiac University poll.

Bush and Kerry were deadlocked in Florida at 43 percent each in a Quinnipiac poll in late June.

The August poll found Florida Gov. Jeb Bush, the president's younger brother, getting tepid reviews from Floridians. The survey

also found fewer than half, 47 percent, were "very confident" that their vote would count. Only one in five said he was aware about new touch-screen voting machines that will be used this year in 15 of the state's largest counties.

Bush's 537-vote edge in Florida in 2000 gave him the presidency over Democrat Al Gore after a fierce political struggle that included recounts, lawsuits and a final decision by the U.S. Supreme Court in favor of Bush.

Florida since has spent more than \$32 million on improvements in equipment and voter education, but machine malfunctions in subsequent elections and the removal of one county supervisor for incompetence has contributed to voter uncertainty.

The poll of 1,094 registered voters was taken Aug. 5-10 and has a margin of sampling error of plus or minus 3 percentage points.

Kerry's Vietnam actions heat up elections debate

BY DAVID TARRANT
The Dallas Morning News

DALLAS — If the first casualty in war is the truth, as the old saying goes, the truth about John Kerry's military service is under fire from television and the bookstore shelves.

The group behind the attack, the Swift Boat Veterans for Truth, has accused Kerry of everything from exaggerating claims to earn medals and Purple Hearts to having his own film crew capturing future campaign footage during his tour in Vietnam almost 35 years ago. Many date their anger at Kerry back to his antiwar activities after he returned from Vietnam, saying he slandered veterans at the time.

But the group has come under fierce counterattack by critics who say that the men featured in their ad did not serve directly with Kerry and that their charges are refuted by extensive military records and numerous eyewitnesses closer to the action than the group members.

The Kerry campaign even notes that some of the accusers were superior officers who gave the candidate glowing performance reviews.

An examination of the evidence and interviews by The

Dallas Morning News with several key witnesses on both sides reveals differing accounts of Kerry's war actions, even 35 years later.

Retired Rear Adm. Roy Hoffman, who organized the group, says the members expected the reaction.

"We're not naive to think we're not going to get blasts," said Hoffman, who as commander of Coastal Surveillance Force, which included the fleet of swift boats, was Kerry's superior officer.

Jim Rassmann, whose life was saved by Kerry, told CNN that the group's campaign is "very disingenuous," adding: "This is partisan motivation on his part and for the part of his whole organization."

The escalating barrage continued Tuesday, with the release of a new book targeting Kerry's war record and accusing the Democratic presidential nominee of distorting his military service for political gain.

The book "Unfit for Command" is co-authored by longtime Kerry nemesis John O'Neill, a Houston lawyer who followed Kerry as commander of Patrol Craft Fast 94. The two squared off in the early 1970s in a famous TV debate about the war.

'I thank my God I have been given this chance'

Iraqi girl paralyzed in U.S. blast gets help in States

BY SHARON COHEN

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Her pink canvas shoes, her stuffed bears and her sturdy metal leg braces were packed neatly into cardboard boxes, ready for Ma'rwa's long journey home to Iraq.

The time for goodbyes was near. Ma'rwa's friends loaded up jeans, cameras, quilts and rolls of fabric, 475 pounds in all. They packed her medicines, too, not thinking about the day when the supply would run out and they would not be there to find more.

And they carefully wrapped a special gift: a globe that sat next to her hospital bed. Ma'rwa could use it one day to show her family how far she had traveled, the ocean she had crossed, the distant places where her new friends live.

The outside world, with its cruelties and kindnesses, had never really intruded on her until an artillery shell exploded on the edge of her family's farm.

That blast ripped apart her life and started Ma'rwa Ahtemi on an extraordinary odyssey. With strangers rallying around her, the 13-year-old — a girl who loves red nail polish and pink clothes — became more than just one of the thousands of civilian casualties in this war.

Ma'rwa made friends who spanned the continents, from the desert battlefield to the marble halls of Congress, with each one tenderly passing her along.

In the end, they sent her home — a scarred girl back to her scarred land — nurturing their own hopes that what they had done would make matter, that it will give Ma'rwa a new start in life.

It was a rainy, windy morning in November, a bloody month for Americans in Iraq, when a mortar shell screamed from the sky deep in the heart of the deadly Sunni Triangle.

Iraqi insurgents lurking in an orchard had launched an attack on a U.S. Army base, but they missed. When the Americans returned fire, they missed, too.

Their 155 mm howitzer shell tore into the earth about 60 yards from a crowded house nestled in the farm fields outside Balad, about 50 miles north of Baghdad.

It was 7 a.m., and Ma'rwa Ahtemi and her large family, including 17 brothers and sisters and three mothers, awoke in terror.

Debris and red-hot shrapnel pounded their walls and shattered their windows. Babies screamed. Children cried. Everyone wanted to run. Ma'rwa's father said no.

But their panic only grew.

"Let's go!" one of Ma'rwa's sisters suddenly shouted, and several others bolted with her into the wet air. Ma'rwa hesitated for a moment, then dashed outside.

Just then, another shell came howling out of the clouds.

In an instant, Ma'rwa's 10-year-old sister was dead, her skull split open. Her 8-year-old brother, 2-year-old sister, baby niece and a stepmother were killed, too.

Shrapnel pierced Ma'rwa's stomach, spine and face. Blood flowed from her nose, ears and mouth.

She collapsed in a pool of rainwater, where a live wire had fallen.

She struggled to pull herself up, but couldn't move her legs.

A few days later, Ma'rwa sat in

a hospital bed in Balad, all feeling gone from her legs, tears streaming down her cheeks, as a U.S. Army officer tried to console her.

It was Lt. Col. Nate Sassaman, the commander of the 1st Battalion, 8th Infantry Regiment, who would become the first link in the long chain of people, each with a special reason, who intervened on Ma'rwa's behalf.

The commander was frustrated. Ma'rwa and other injured family members were bandaged but seemingly ignored.

An Army trauma surgeon arranged for Ma'rwa, two brothers and a sister to be transferred to the 21st Combat Support Hospital.

There, among the sand-coated tents, Maj. Mary Adams-Challenger, a physical therapist, met her newest patient.

She noticed Ma'rwa had a large, potentially life-threatening pressure sore on her back, caused by the malnourished girl's long days on thin mattresses.

Ma'rwa needed treatment for that and she had to learn a new way to dress, bathe and go to the bathroom (she lost bladder control from her injuries). She needed a wheelchair, too. Adams-Challenger began e-mailing friends, family, other physical therapists. That's when she discovered a pediatrician stationed just down the road.

It was Dr. Sharnell Hoffer, who works in Minnesota but was serving as a major with the Iowa National Guard. When Hoffer stopped by, she worried because Ma'rwa wasn't eating and was just a scrap of a kid at 60 pounds.

One day, as Hoffer pored over a catalogue of charities, deciding which ones to contribute to, it hit her: Surely, one of these groups



Ma'rwa Ahtemi, 13, an Iraqi girl who was paralyzed in a mortar attack by U.S. forces in Iraq, smiles during a physical therapy session at National Rehabilitation Hospital in Washington, D.C., in March. For three hours every day, Ma'rwa underwent state-of-the-art therapy to prepare her for her new life.

could help Ma'rwa. She enlisted another soldier to compose an appeal.

When that note seeking help popped up on Marcie Roth's computer screen, 6,000 miles away in Rockville, Md., another link was forged.

As director of the National Spinal Cord Injury Association, Roth is not only well-connected, she's also persistent.

Within 72 hours, Roth had lined up the National Rehabilitation Hospital in Washington to take Ma'rwa and a guardian — and pay for her care.

Next she had to arrange for Ma'rwa's trip. Roth turned to Iowa Sen. Tom Harkin, a supporter on disability issues. Another link. Harkin wrote to Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld, then called Rumsfeld's deputy, Paul Wolfowitz.

By this time, Ma'rwa had a donated wheelchair and plans for rehabilitation in America.

On Feb. 28, when Ma'rwa and her uncle landed at Andrews Air Force Base, Adams-Challenger and Hoffer, who'd already rotated back home, flew in from Texas and Minnesota to greet her.

In her first night in America, Ma'rwa made fast friends: She painted the fingernails of her nurses.

But soon it was time for hard work: three hours of therapy every day.

"I thank my God," she said, "I have been given this chance."

By April, she could dismantle

her wheelchair — with her own manual chair. By May, she had taken her first steps in thigh-to-ankle braces that she'll use mostly for indoors.

But Ma'rwa still has shrapnel embedded in her spinal cord and stomach and nerve damage in her legs. The girl who liked to frolic on her farm, cook and sew must adapt.

Beneath that determination, though, Ma'rwa harbors fears and doubts.

She confided them to Ahrir Elisyed, her Sudanese-born translator, worrying she won't be able to dance like other women at village weddings, and agonizing over the shelling. But as time passed, Ma'rwa grew eager to return home.

The National Rehabilitation Hospital donated a year's supply of medicines and supplies (worth \$8,000) and ordered a special wheelchair with thick wheels, suitable for sand. Ma'rwa Roth raised more than \$10,000 for Ma'rwa's family and established a fund to collect more.

In late May, Ma'rwa was carried aboard a C-141 military transport for her journey home.

Two days later, Ma'rwa and her uncle, Saleh Mohammed Ali, landed at the U.S. military air base in Balad. Her father awaited her.

As they set out, the base shook again. A mortar fired by Iraqi insurgents landed nearby. No one was hurt.

Ma'rwa Ahtemi returned home safely.



Ma'rwa Ahtemi lies in her bed at the 21st Combat Support Hospital at Camp Anacosta near Balad, Iraq, in November 2003. Worried about the daunting task facing the paralyzed 13-year-old, Army Maj. Mary Adams-Challenger sought medical help for the Iraqi girl in the United States.

Biometrics, coming to a store near you

BY BRIAN BERGSTEIN
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Stuffing something in a public locker usually isn't a memorable experience. You drop a coin, take the key and move on.

But at the Statue of Liberty, recently reopened after a two-year closure, stuffing a package offers a glimpse into the future. To rent, close and reopen lockers, visitors touch an electronic reader that scans fingerprints.

"It's easy," Taiwanese visitor Yu-Sheng Lee, 26, said after stowing a bag. Like nearly every other tourist at the statue that day, this was Lee's first experience with biometrics — the identification of an individual based on personal characteristics like fingerprints, facial features or iris patterns.

While the technology is not new, having seen use for years to restrict access in corporate and military settings, it is only now creeping into everyday life. Over the next few years, people currently unfamiliar with the technology will be asked to use it in everything from travel settings to financial transactions.

The Nine Zero, an upscale hotel in Boston, recently began letting guests in its \$3,000-a-night Cloud Nine suite enter and exit by looking into a camera that analyzes their iris patterns.

Piggly Wiggly Co. grocery stores in the South just launched a pay-by-fingerprint system, though pilot tests elsewhere have had lukewarm results.

Feelings seemed mixed about the lockers at the Statue of Liberty on a muggy New York afternoon last week.

Some people were befuddled

by the system and had to put their fingers on the reader several times before a scan was properly made. Others forgot their locker number upon their return, or didn't remember which finger they had used to check it out. One young woman accidentally put her ticket to the statue in the locker, requiring her to open it and then re-register it all over again with another finger scan.

With all the confusion, lines at the three touchscreen kiosks that control the bank of 170 lockers frequently stretched six or seven

Smart Carte's fingerprint lockers were introduced two years ago at the Minneapolis-St. Paul airport, and also can be found in Chicago's Union Station and the Universal Studios and Islands of Adventure theme parks in Florida.

The company adopted the biometric system for the airport lockers to assure the Transportation Security Administration that the bins could not be rented by one person then opened by someone else.

Fingerprint biometric systems generally work by reducing the image of a print to a template, a mathematical algorithm that gets stored in a database and can be checked when the person returns for later scans. In applications like the biometric lockers, the print itself is not stored or sent to authorities.

However, prints are being run through terrorist watch lists in the biggest deployment of biometrics yet — the federal government's new system for tracking foreign travelers.

Now in its early stages, the program, known as US-VISIT, calls for visitors to go through biometric scans to ensure that they are who their visa or passport says they are. Passports issued by the United States and other countries are getting new chips that will have facial-recognition data, and other biometrics might be added.

Separately, iris-scanning systems have cropped up in European airports as a way to speed immigration controls.

But you won't have to be a jet-setter to encounter biometrics more and more. For one, it's increasingly being used to control access to computers.

And scattered grocery stores have tested systems that let con-



Connecticut resident Elias Roman places his finger in a scanning device at the locker-rental area of the newly-opened Statue of Liberty in New York on August 4. To rent, close and reopen lockers, visitors now touch an electronic reader that scans fingerprints.

sumers check out with a touch of a fingerprint scanner. Piggly Wiggly recently installed such a system in four South Carolina stores and expects to expand it to 116 other outlets, saying it offers speed, convenience and protection against credit card theft.

Other pay-by-fingerprint systems, including one tested several years ago at a McDonald's in Fresno, Calif., haven't met with

much enthusiasm.

But that could change now that credit card fraud and identity theft have emerged as bigger problems, said Dean Douglas, a services vice president at IBM Corp., which is handling the back-end technology for Piggly Wiggly's fingerprint-scanning system.

"Within the next five to 10 years," Douglas predicted, "we're going to see biometrics play an increasingly large part of consumer transactions."



Patrick Deuel has lost 321 pounds since being hospitalized in June for his excessive weight. Deuel, 42, originally weighed 1,072 lb. He hopes to lose at least another 450 pounds and walk out of the hospital on his own power.

Half-ton man loses 321 pounds

The Associated Press

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. — A man who once weighed more than half a ton has lost 321 pounds under the care of a team of doctors and hopes to lose 450 pounds more.

Patrick Deuel, 42, of Valentine, Neb., weighed 1,072 pounds when he was admitted to Sioux Falls' Avera McKennan Hospital eight weeks ago.

Deuel, who is just under 6 feet tall, is on a 1,200 calorie-a-day diet.

"If we hadn't gotten him here, he'd be dead now," said Fred Harris, Deuel's lead doctor.

The former restaurant manager has been bedridden since last fall. He has battled heart failure, thyroid problems, diabetes, pulmonary hypertension and arthritis, and needed help just to roll over in bed.

"Until recently, I wasn't able to see any light at the end of the tun-

nel," he said Monday from his hospital bed.

A group known as the League of Human Dignity helped arrange for Deuel to be driven to a local livestock scale, where he could be weighed.

"Until recently, I wasn't able to see any light at the end of the tunnel."

Patrick Deuel

According to the Guinness World Records Web site, the record for heaviest man in the world is 1,397 pounds, held by Jon Browner Minnoch of Bainbridge, Wash., who died in 1983.

Deuel, who has battled weight problems all his life and blames his condition in part on genetics, said it took months to find a hospital. Hospitals closer to his home balked at admitting him, he said.

"I got scared because I couldn't

help him anymore, and I didn't know who would help him," said his wife, Edith.

Harris said Deuel's care could cost millions of dollars, much of which the hospital may have to cover. Officials found a special

ambulance, and hospital workers found two beds to accommodate Deuel.

One of Deuel's goals is to walk out of the hospital. He also wants to go to a Nebraska Cornhuskers football game, and just take a walk with his wife.

"Even though he's faced negativity all these years, he's not a negative person," Edith Deuel said. "He's almost always been able to stay bubbly and make jokes and be happy."

FACES 'N' PLACES

the teen queen

Glass slipper fits perfectly for actress-singer Hilary Duff in role as youth-market idol

By RICHARD HARRINGTON

The Washington Post

Hilary Duff just can't keep a personal diary. "I've tried before and it's lasted about four days," says the 16-year-old singer-actress. "I do keep one on my Web site so all my fans can see what's going on with me, but you know what? When you're busy, it's really hard!"

Duff's entry dated May 24 was datelined Toronto, where Duff was filming the romantic comedy "The Perfect Man," in which she plays matchmaker for mom Heather Locklear.

This summer Duff starred in "A Cinderella Story," a contemporary twist on the classic fairy tale, with a soundtrack featuring four of her songs. Duff then embarked on a 33-city concert tour. This month, she'll complete her as-yet untitled sophomore album, set for release Sept. 28 — her 17th birthday. Duff's debut album, "Metamorphosis," went triple platinum, outselling Britney Spears' and Madonna's last albums combined. October sees the release of another film, "Raise Your Voice."

Maybe it's a good thing she doesn't keep a diary. Who'd believe such fantasies?

"I feel lucky, I really do," says Duff, calling from Los Angeles recently. "Everything is so crazy for me, and so surreal — I feel like such a normal girl in this crazy whirlwind world. Sometimes I do feel like it's a fantasy and a fairy tale."

Four years ago, it felt more like a bad dream about to be deflected by a girl from Texas who'd been an aspiring ballerina at 6, started doing ads and commercials at 8, and moved to Los Angeles at 10 with her mother, Susan, and sister Haylie, then 12. Father Bob stayed in Houston, where he owned a number of convenience stores, while the sisters studied acting, auditioned like crazy, and got rejected early and often.

At 12, she was ready to give up. But there was one more call. Duff told her mom she wasn't going up for the role.

"But they sent a plane ticket to come back and audition for it, and I said OK, though I didn't really care about the audition. I went in and I guess I did a good job."

Indeed, at 12, Duff won the title role in "Lizzie McGuire," a charming and innovative series about the awkward middle school years that mixed live action, stills, home movies and animation. Perky, polite, vulnerable and in no great hurry to grow up, Lizzie had an animated alter ego to express her innermost thoughts.

Parents liked the show; more importantly, kids identified with Lizzie. It was the Disney Channel's highest-rated show after its 2001 debut, with 2 million viewers per episode — mostly "twins," 8- to 14-year-olds.

CP/AP

a newly defined, highly desired demographic. There are some 25 million of them with an estimated buying and influencing power (money spent directly and money they get their parents to spend) of \$500 billion annually.

And Hilary, with her sweet smile and golden blond hair, suddenly became the "teen queen," with a show that was getting 375,000 e-mails a week.

In her two years on the show, Lizzie McGuire never sang, though Hilary did, making her debut with "I Can't Wait" on the series' platinum soundtrack album. She didn't have to wait long. "The Lizzie McGuire Movie," in which Lizzie graduates from middle school and goes to Italy on a class trip, found a way for her to sing: seemed she was a dead ringer for the distaff half of a popular Italian pop duo, gone missing on the eve of a globally televised awards show — Lizzie McGuire to the rescue! "Metamorphosis" proved the musical equivalent of Lizzie McGuire's coming-of-age, a collection of bright, accessible and age-appropriate songs. The first single, the Matrix-rivalling "No Yesterday," went to No. 1. The album soon followed.

Though Duff missed the drama of high school, she's certainly finding it in the nation's tabloids. There are the widely reported rifts with Avril Lavigne and Lindsay Lohan (the former over a perceived slight, the latter over mutual boyfriend Aaron Carter), and more recently, rumors of romance with 25-year-old Joel Madden, lead singer of Good Charlotte.

On a happier note, Duff recently adorned the cover of Seventeen, sporting a demure, dove-gray jacket over a white top. It's a good look for a role model, which unlike some of her peers, Duff doesn't seem to have a problem being.

"I think that I'm pretty straightforward and I'm an honest person, and if people look up to that because I am, I'm just being myself, then that's cool," she says. "I don't necessarily feel like I have to break away or get out of this type of genre — that people have put me in. I do think that I'm growing and my music, especially on this second album that's coming out, is more mature, but not so mature that it's beyond that younger audience, because I do know that I have that younger audience. Same with the movie parts that I take."

Clapton on the RockWalk

Grammy winner Eric Clapton has been inducted into Los Angeles' RockWalk — established in 1985 to honor musicians who have made a significant contribution to the history of music — in a private ceremony.

Clapton, 59, received a commemorative plaque and had imprints of his hands and signature installed in marble on Sunset Boulevard on Monday.

He recently completed a North American concert tour to promote his latest CD, "Me and Mr. Johnson."

Previous inductees include The Ramones, B.B. King, Chuck Berry, Janis Joplin and Aerosmith.

Janet Jackson returns to television

Janet Jackson will guest-star as herself in an upcoming episode of the NBC sitcom "Will & Grace."

The episode will air on Sept. 23, Jackson told syndicated entertainment TV show "Access Hollywood" in an interview that aired Monday.

Her last prime-time role was as Cleo Hewitt on NBC's "Fame" (1984-85). She also appeared in the TV shows "Diff'rent Strokes" and "Good Times."

When asked about the upcoming "Will & Grace" episode, Jackson said it involves Sean Hayes' character, Jack McFarland, "trying out as a dancer."

"There's a little bit of a routine and they go on to do their thing from there," she said in excerpts of the interview posted on the "Access Hollywood" Web site. "It's funny. I have to catch myself because I'm cringing up in rehearsals. It's just funny to watch them. It's hilarious."

Jackson's breast-baring performance during the half-time show at this year's Super Bowl, seen by millions of TV viewers, created an uproar.

Dean not quite ready for prime time

Former Vermont Gov. and presidential candidate Howard Dean says he's not ready to change careers from political activist to talk-show host.

Dean, whose Dean for America presidential campaign has morphed into the Democracy for America political action group, subbed for the host of CNBC's "Topic (A) With Tina Brown" Sunday night.

His guests included comedian Jon Stewart of Comedy Central's "The Daily Show." They discussed politics and the media.

Over the last several months, Dean has reportedly been in talks to host his own show. But he told Stewart he's not yet ready to start a new career.

Seriously, it's Bill Cosby

When comedian Bill Cosby called Holyoke, Mass., Police Chief Anthony Scott to praise his battle against street crime, the chief thought it was a joke.

Scott told The Republican in Springfield recently that it took Cosby about a minute to convince him of his identity. "I was floored," Scott said.

Cosby's phone call came as the 67-year-old entertainer, who has a home in the rural western Massachusetts town of Shelburne, has taken a personal interest in helping to combat crime in the region's cities.

He met last week with a mother in neighboring Springfield whose 19-year-old twins were killed in separate shootings. Cosby promised to help her organize a community rally against street violence.

Stories and photos from The Associated Press



Clapton



Jackson



Dean



Cosby

YOUR MONEY

Identity theft protects database culture

Credit thieves target large databases

Large databases kept by wholesale or Internet retailers have become common targets for identity thieves, providing access to hundreds of thousands of Social Security and credit card numbers with one successful hack.

Some large identity theft and hacking cases:

- 1999**
- June 1999**—A hacker who stole 300,000 credit card numbers from Internet retailer CD Universe, posted 25,000 of them on a Web site when a \$100,000 ransom was not paid.
 - October 2003**—A woman pleaded guilty to sending fake e-mails to AOL customers urging them to update credit card numbers to continue service.
 - November 2003**—Secret Service agents found names, addresses and Social Security numbers of Wells Fargo Bank customers on a stolen computer in a suspect's home.
 - December 2003**—A man pleaded guilty to downloading sensitive data from consumer database giant Axiom Corp., causing \$5.6 million in losses.
 - May 2004**—A man was convicted of sending 850 million junk e-mails through accounts he opened with stolen identities after Internet service provider Earthlink Inc. sent a \$16.4 million judgment against him in court.
 - June 2004**—An AOL employee was arrested for allegedly stealing member screen names and using them as targets for junk e-mail. A computer was stolen containing 145,000 UCLA blood donors' Social Security numbers, birthdates and other personal information.

14 people were charged with operating a ring that made fake credit cards from numbers stolen of restaurant patrons.

SOURCE: Department of Justice

BY MARK JEWELL

The Associated Press

BOSTON — BJ's Wholesale Club Inc. attracts shoppers to its stores by putting thousands of discounted products under one roof.

It wasn't hard to attract cyber-thieves either, with databases that amass credit card information in huge numbers.

The theft earlier this year of thousands of credit card records from the nation's third-largest warehouse club illustrates the potential for massive-scale identity theft whenever so much purchase-enabling information is stored in one place. It also illustrates how difficult the cleanup can be.

The Secret Service still doesn't know whether the breach was an inside job or the work of hackers, but it has made some arrests, said Tim Buckley, a Secret Service agent investigating the case.

The suspects arrested recently in the United States and abroad may have ties to a large international identity theft ring, Buckley said. He declined to say how many suspects have been made or provide further details.

Meanwhile, financial institutions are still smarting. They've had to reissue hundreds of thousands of credit cards belonging to BJ's customers as a precaution against further fraud.

The BJ's case may be the largest retail fraud of its kind based on the amount of cards reissued, experts say.

Hundreds of thousands of replacements were sent to custom-

ers across the 16 states where BJ's operates, though BJ's says the breach affected only "a small fraction" of its 8 million members.

Philadelphia-based Sovereign Bank covered about 700 fraudulent transactions from the BJ's theft and had to reissue 81,000 cards twice, at a cost of about \$1 million, once in May and again in June, after a glitch occurred with the first batch, said spokeswoman Ellen Mole said.

"There are some pretty heavy losses out there," said Greg Smith, president of the Pennsylvania State Employees Credit Union, which reissued cards of 114,000 of its members at a cost of \$100,000.

Visa and MasterCard issuers in the United States, most of them banks, lost an estimated \$820 million from fraud in 2003, up 25 percent from the previous year, according to a study by Credit Card Management, an industry magazine.

When BJ's disclosed the breach in a March 12 news release, it said it had altered its security systems and was confident customer information was secure. BJ's, which has 150 clubs and 78 gas stations, said the theft would have no material effect on its finances. Consumer advocacy organizations say they've received few consumer complaints.

But the Natick, Mass.-based company now faces claims from some of the 10 to 15 banks it had to replace cards or reimburse consumers for fraudulent transactions. Investigators and bank officials have declined to disclose the monetary losses.

As sensitive data about consumers — not just credit card numbers but also buying habits and other information — is recorded in databases, the potential for identity theft on a massive scale is increasing.

Last week, three men pleaded guilty in North Carolina to charges they conspired to hack into the Lowe's home improvement

chain's data network to steal credit card information. Lowe's officials said the men failed to get into the company's national database.

In another case involving a mother lode of data, a Florida man was charged last month with stealing large amounts of consumer information from a database aggregator Axiom Corp. — the second such hack of Axiom files revealed in the past year. Prosecutors said the stolen data was not used for identity fraud but to distribute ads via an e-mail business the man runs.

Such thefts raise costs for credit card issuers, which typically cover most losses from fraudulent transactions and limit liability to merchants. The problem is a moving target because thieves are creating increasingly sophisticated criminal networks with global reach.

"However they find the numbers, they end up on some computer bulletin board and are sold," said Buckley.

Lowe's is responding. A federal law signed July 15 increases criminal penalties and eases the burden of proof prosecutors must meet to convict on identity theft cases.

The law also establishes a new crime of aggravated identity theft, which sets forth punishment guidelines for cases originating from information stolen in a workplace.

A California law that took effect last year holds retailers more accountable for safeguarding customers' card data, but analysts say few such protections exist elsewhere. Under the California law, banks and other companies must notify customers when a breach of their personal information is suspected.

The credit industry "has been relatively slow in taking more security steps than they already have in place because they sort of felt they could tolerate the loss," said Robert Richardson of the Computer Security Institute, an organization for security professionals. Next steps could include employing identification technologies such as fingerprint scans.

WEDNESDAY'S MARKET SUMMARY

INDEXES

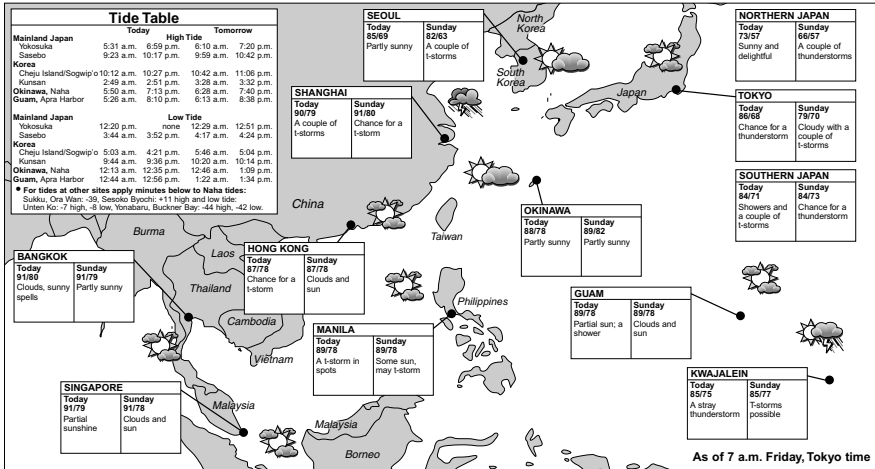
52-week High	Low	Name	Last	Net	%	YTD	52-week High
10,513.63	9,146.62	Dow Jones Industrial	9,938.92	+3.75	+0.37	+11.73	
3,212.45	2,578.74	Dow Jones Transportation	3,049.89	+5.02	+0.16	+14.2	+13.35
286.15	234.66	Dow Jones Utilities	285.07	+1.59	+0.56	+19.81	
6,798.12	5,520.43	NYSE Composite	6,278.69	-16.51	-0.26	+23.1	+27.73
1,788.11	950.85	Russell 2000	1,211.55	-6.22	-0.54	+23.4	+25.68
1,446.59	946.59	Nasdaq Composite	1,282.42	-26.29	-1.65	+11.83	+5.68
1,353.23	974.21	S&P 500	1,075.79	-3.25	-0.30	+32.5	+32.5
518.46	483.83	S&P MidCap	501.77	-3.87	-0.74	+31.7	+31.31
398.42	453.94	Russell 2000	526.63	-3.29	-0.60	+54.4	+12.66
11,371.14	8,372.94	DJ Wilshire 2000	10,417.88	-35.65	-0.34	+35.4	+39.87

NYSE

Most Active (\$1 or more)				Most Active (\$1 or more)				Most Active (\$1 or more)			
Name	Vol	Last	Chg	Name	Vol	Last	Chg	Name	Vol	Last	Chg
Alcoa	436,120	2.86	-.35	Nextel	118,460	32.92	-.27	Cisco	176,955	18.28	-2.17
Boeing	299,999	18.54	-1.01	SPDR	52,844	488.36	-1.50	Microsoft	247,726	11.35	-2.16
General Electric	1,236	1.01	-0.31	SPDR	52,844	488.36	-1.50	Oracle	521,364	27.41	-2.41
Microsoft	247,726	11.35	-2.1	QCOM	66,375	99.71	1.24	Microchip	52,136	16.19	-1.41
Northwestern	1,236	1.01	-0.31	SPDR	52,844	488.36	-1.50	Intel	1,099,919	8.29	-2.7
Amazon	1,236	1.01	-0.31	SPDR	52,844	488.36	-1.50	IBM	1,236	1.01	-0.31
Apple	1,236	1.01	-0.31	SPDR	52,844	488.36	-1.50	SPDR	52,844	488.36	-1.50
Facebook	147,413	31.77	+46	SPDR	52,844	488.36	-1.50	Siliconix	33,697	2.16	-1.11
Motorola	147,413	31.77	+46	SPDR	52,844	488.36	-1.50	USX Energy	11,917	1.09	-1.11
Exxon	147,413	31.77	+46	SPDR	52,844	488.36	-1.50	SPDR	52,844	488.36	-1.50
Comcast	147,413	31.77	+46	SPDR	52,844	488.36	-1.50	Yahoo	5,247	1.42	+2.7
AT&T	147,413	31.77	+46	SPDR	52,844	488.36	-1.50	Sumitomo	23,796	1.49	-1.01

The Pacific Forecast

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Extended Forecasts

TOKYO
Monday: Periods of clouds and sunshine, high 83, low 70.
Tuesday: Periods of clouds and sunshine, high 83, low 75.

KADENA
Monday: Periods of clouds and sunshine, high 91, low 84.
Tuesday: Periods of clouds and sunshine, high 92, low 84.

SEoul
Monday: Morning rain, high 76, low 63.
Tuesday: Rain, high 77, low 65.

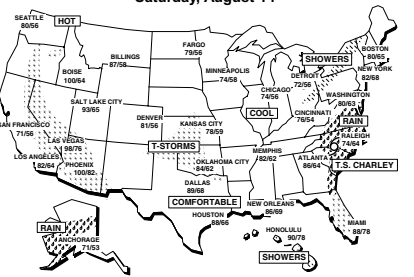
MANILA
Monday: Periods of clouds and sunshine, high 89, low 78.
Tuesday: Thunderstorms, high 89, low 78.

HAGATNA
Monday: Partly sunny, high 89, low 77.
Tuesday: Thunderstorms, high 88, low 77.

Thursday's USA Temperatures

CITY	HIGH/LOW	CITY	HIGH/LOW
Albuquerque	92/65	Los Angeles	94/65
Amesbury	61/58	Little Rock	79/56
Anchorage	77/56	Louisville	74/54
Asheville	72/58	Miami	91/80
Baltimore	80/69	Milwaukee	64/52
Birmingham	80/57	Nashville	76/53
Bismarck	70/42	New York	82/70
Boise	98/65	Omaha	71/51
Boston	84/68	Orlando	92/74
Brownsville	94/70	Philadelphia	84/70
Buffalo	74/56	Phoenix	105/87
Burlington	73/65	Pittsburgh	68/58
Charleston, SC	89/72	Portland, OR	94/62
Charlotte	82/66	Portland, ME	73/66
Cleveland	69/54	Salt Lake City	94/64
Columbus, OH	71/54	St. Louis	70/53
Duluth	67/47	San Antonio	89/64
El Paso	94/68	San Diego	75/67
Hartford	83/67	San Juan	88/78
Honolulu	89/52	Tampa	90/76
Indianapolis	70/49	Tulsa	82/58
Jacksonville	88/73	Washington	81/69
Kansas City	74/52	Wichita	81/56

Saturday, August 14



U.S. Extended Forecast

Charley will move northward through the Southeast into the Middle Atlantic Saturday and into the Northeast Saturday night into Sunday. This will lead to another round of heavy rain through these Eastern states and with Bonnie having already moved through, flooding will be a concern over a large area. The timing of this rainfall is dependent on how fast Charley moves northward. The northern Plains to the Great Lakes into the Ohio Valley will have fall-like weather Saturday and Sunday with average temperatures running 5-15 degrees below normal. Sunshine to start the day will mix with afternoon clouds and a stray shower cannot be ruled out. A weak front will move through Minnesota into the western lakes Monday.

Saturday's Pacific Temperatures

CITY	HIGH/LOW	CITY	HIGH/LOW
Bangkok	91/80	Iwakuni	84/70
Beijing	85/67	Kadena AB	88/78
Camp Casey	86/70	Kunsan AB	82/67
Christchurch	50/31	Kwajalein	65/52
Diego Garcia	79/71	Manila	89/78
Hagatna	89/78	Misawa AB	84/70
Hanoi	90/76	Osan	84/69
Hong Kong	87/78	Perth	53/37
Honolulu	90/78	Pusan	81/69

Saturday's World Temperatures

CITY	HIGH/LOW	CITY	HIGH/LOW	CITY	HIGH/LOW
Acapulco	91/76	Budapest	69/50	Kabul	105/70
Athens	94/74	Buenos Aires	72/52	Kiev	71/45
Auckland	60/51	Cairo	101/70	Kuwait	113/81
Baghdad	110/74	Cancun	86/73	London	73/59
Barbados	87/71	Cape Town	54/33	Manila	91/73
Barcelona	79/66	Geneva	71/57	Mexico City	76/56
Berlin	70/54	Istanbul	90/65	Montreal	73/58
Bermuda	85/73	Jerusalem	80/68	Mogadishu	83/51
Brussels	71/55	Johannesburg	77/50	Moscow	66/48
				Warsaw	67/46



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West Nile death

CA LONG BEACH — An 88-year-old woman has died from the West Nile virus, bringing California's death toll from the mosquito-borne illness to three. Another possible death was suspected.

The latest confirmed victim, a Long Beach woman whose name wasn't released, died Monday after spending nearly two weeks in the hospital, said Dr. Darryl Sexton, the city's health officer.

The state's two other confirmed West Nile deaths were in San Bernardino and Orange counties.

A spokeswoman from Kaiser Permanente hospital in Panorama City said preliminary tests showed a 91-year-old Northridge woman also died of the virus last week. Officials will conduct another blood test to confirm the results.

Lottery litigation

MA BARNSTABLE — Two couples are fighting in court over ownership of a Massachusetts Lottery scratch ticket worth \$4 million.

According to testimony in the civil jury trial in Barnstable Superior Court, which began Monday, Julie Prive was a clerk at a Tedeschi's market in Falmouth in 2002, and began regularly collecting discarded losing scratch tickets.

She entered these tickets in the Clean Fun Sweepstakes, the lottery's second-chance game designed to keep used tickets from becoming litter.

Prive said that while double-checking the used tickets, she found a winner worth \$4 million.

However, Raymond MacDonald and Monica Hertz claim the winning ticket — No. 93 in the series of \$10 tickets — was among the 45 tickets they bought that day, May 17, according to their lawyer, Leigh-Ann Patterson.

Murder before arson

SC COLUMBIA — Three children found dead in the ruins of their burned home had their throats slashed before one of their parents set the fire, authorities said Tuesday.

The father had recently been accused of molesting one of the children.

Sheriff's Capt. Glenn Williams said officials are awaiting test results and plan to investigate further.

The bodies of Denia Meza, 14, Denise Meza, 8, and Jayro Meza, 5, were found in their charred beds after the fire was extinguished early Monday, said Williams.

Autopsies determined that Jose Denis Meza, 39, and Maribel Zyzdelon Meza, 30, died from smoke inhalation and burns, but the children were dead before the fire was set, Williams said.

Tourists get gunked up

IL CHICAGO — A nice day on the Chicago River suddenly turned foul when black, smelly gunk landed on tourists.

"I can only presume that perhaps it's human waste. There was a very strong smell to it," said Anita Pedersen, spokeswoman



for the tour boat company.

Witnesses on the Chicago's Little Lady architecture tour Sunday saw a large black tour bus dumping liquid waste as their boat cruised under a bridge, Pedersen said. More than 100 passengers were on the boat when the waste poured onto the upper, open deck.

Fashion fakery

TX HOUSTON — Federal inspectors are working to stem the flow of knockoff Louis Vuitton and Coach handbags and other items coming from Houston, which lags behind only behind New York and Los Angeles in supplying counterfeit products to the rest of the nation.

Last year, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement officials seized fake goods valued at \$22 million in the Houston area alone.

Nearly all of these seizures led to Harwin, a retail area in the western part of the city where police in the past five years have made 70 arrests on counterfeiting charges, the Houston Chronicle reported Sunday.

Pull me over

VT VERNON — It's not often that police get pulled over by a drunk driver.

It happened recently to Police Chief Ian McCollin, who was in his car when he obviously a driver looking befuddled at an intersection.

Thinking the man might be lost, McCollin stopped on the side of the road. The man pulled along-side of him, rolled down his win-

dow and announced he was looking for an officer to arrest him because he was drunk.

McCollin was so startled he called for backup.

"I was just a little nervous about it," he said. "It just wasn't natural."

The man, Bryan S. Condo, 28, showed a non-driver's I.D., and said his license had been criminally suspended. He said he already has been arrested once for driving drunk.

Clown car theft

IA ALTOONA — A clown isn't smiling now that someone stole his clown car.

Delmer Jefferson drove the miniature, bright yellow tow truck in parades. But on July 5, someone stole the truck from the parking lot of the Za-Ga-Zig Shrine in Altoona.

"I'm heartbroken," said Jefferson, whose been a clown for the Shriners for more than 30 years. "I can't replace it and it's not worth anything to anyone else. It's a clown car."

Police Det. Jason Ferguson said the thing is being investigated.

"This thing is so unique," Ferguson said. "What would anyone do with it?"

Fewer loggerhead turtles

NC EMERALD ISLE — About half the usual number of loggerhead turtles have nested between North Carolina and Florida this season, and scientists have no explanation for the drop.

"It's one of the lowest nesting years through the last 20," said Larry Crowder, a professor at Duke University Marine Laboratory in Beaufort and member of the Atlantic Loggerhead Sea Turtle Recovery team. "I don't think it's time to say, 'Oh my God, loggerheads are going extinct.' It's just a bad year. Obviously that can't go on too long."

Loggerheads have laid about 300 nests in North Carolina and more are expected to lay eggs through August, said Matthew Godfrey, biologist for the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission Sea Turtle Project.

ATV map flap

NH CONCORD, N.H. (AP) — Businesses that sell or rent snowmobiles and off-road vehicles are required to give customers copies of trail maps and relevant laws, but they've been waiting two years for the proper paperwork from the state Fish and Game Department.

Under a 2002 law, buyers are supposed to sign a disclosure statement saying they are aware of the rules and have received a map. But Fish and Game officials said they have not had time to create the forms because they've been busy with safety education classes for teens and adults who violate off-road vehicle laws.

Officials initially told the Concord Monitor that the earliest they expected to be in compliance was late 2005 or early 2006. But they later called the reporter to say the forms will be ready before this year's snowmobiling season.



Splashdown

Ashtand, Ohio.

Matt Sweet, 16, heads for the water after leaping off the high-dive at Brookside Pool in



Soft landing

A queen butterfly comes in for a landing on a thibonnia flower in the Martha Jane Phillips Starr Conservatory in Kingdom City, Mo.

Come sail away

A sail boat returns to its mooring on Lake Champlain in Shelburne, Vt., during a colorful sunset.



Stick and move Devin Vargas, right, works out with trainer Chuck Moreno at Glass City Gym in Toledo, Ohio.



For the record Texas Department of Public Safety Trooper Gregg Greer, right, and Trooper Nelson map out the scene of a fatal accident along U.S. 69 near Bullard, Texas.



Chowing down

Alejandro Torres, 10, eats a tomato from the produce stand where he and his older brother Jesus, 13, work in Kent, Wash.



Line of fire

A wildfire burns near the Dryden Community Church in Dryden, Wash. This wildfire forced the evacuation of dozens of homes in the area.

Twinkie lives on

ME BLUE HILL — A Twinkie is standing the test of time on the edge of a blackboard may be a retiring science teacher's lasting legacy.

Roger Bennatti developed a reputation as an innovative teacher during his 31-year career at George Stevens Academy, using new methods to introduce students to subjects he loved. But the legend of the Twinkie looms over all.

Speckled with bits of mold, the bright yellow cake still adorns his lab. "We wanted to see what the shelf life of a Twinkie was," said Bennatti. "The idea was to see how long it would take to go bad."

The Twinkie stayed on top of the board through his career — joined in later years by a Fig Newton — and occasionally inspired new food experiments. Bennatti estimates the ever-yellow Twinkie is about 30 years old.

"It's rather brittle, but if you dust it off, it's probably still edible," Bennatti said.

Man wins dogfight

TX CORPUS CHRISTI — A meter reader attacked by two mixed-breed pit bulls Thursday fought them off, killing one of the animals by holding his knee to the dog's throat. The other was shot dead by police.

Scott Rousslang, 24, was treated and released from a Corpus Christi hospital with bandages covering more than 20 bite marks on his hands, arms and legs.

Rousslang was attacked when he jumped a fence to read a water meter Thursday morning.

While one of the dogs bit into his limbs, he threw the other one to the ground and pressed a knee to its throat.

Officers arrived, shooting and killing the other dog.

Fuel plant plan

WY RAWLINS — A Texas company is proposing a \$2.75 billion plant to process coal into diesel, electricity and other products.

Houston-based DKRW Energy is hoping to open a coal gasification and liquefaction facility on the Medicine Bow River Ranch by 2008.

The plan would use technology not yet in commercial use in the United States to create "ultra-clean" diesel fuel, other petroleum products and low-cost electricity to send over a new transmission line to western markets. DKRW partner Bob Kelly told the Carbon County Commission.

Bank robbery a drag

TN COLLIERSVILLE — A mustached man donning a green sun dress made off with \$4,000 from a bank, but he didn't make the best-dressed list.

Witnesses say the bank robber could have used a little fashion help. But his girlie get-up helped him get away.

Police were searching Tuesday for the man who robbed a bank

while wearing a woman's wig and dress.

"It was a leaf design, but muted," a woman who witnessed the holdup said of the robber's frock.

"He looked a mess," said another witness.

Supply copter crashes

WA LEAVENWORTH — A helicopter crashed Wednesday while ferrying supplies to firefighters in the Alpine Lakes Wilderness in central Washington, killing the pilot.

The pilot, identified by the U.S. Forest Service as Mike Ward, 55, of Clayton, Ga., was the only person on board.

The cause of the crash, about 20 miles northwest of Leavenworth in the North Cascades, was not immediately known.

Note to self: Rob bank

KS KANSAS CITY — If he's still keeping a to-do list, John Sarver could add some new entries: go to prison, and pay restitution.

Sarver, 48, pleaded guilty in April to robbing six banks, all in suburban Johnson County, in 2002 and 2003. The last took place just before Christmas, and Sarver was arrested Jan. 2.

When police searched Sarver's house, they found a list including a reminder to "rob bank."

Sarver was back in court Monday, drawing a prison sentence of 10 years and five months, plus two years under supervision after he gets out. U.S. District Judge Kathryn Vratil also ordered him to make restitution of \$13,834.

Watching out for waste

NM SUNLAND PARK — The state Environment Department conducted an early-morning sweep Monday of a Sunland Park landfill that raised suspicions last week.

Monday's action at the Camino Real landfill uncovered two loads the department termed problematic. Inspectors said the loads contained hypodermic needles and other infectious waste from dairy, veterinary or medical operations.

Such infectious waste can pose health hazards, particularly to waste haulers and landfill workers, he said. Illegally disposing of medical waste can increase the risk of contracting blood-borne illnesses.

Bear after brew

MT KALISPELL — A bear apparently humped over barrels at a busted brewery and filled up on fermented fruit waste.

It seems the bear gorged itself on the remnants of fermented fruit, part of the debris dumped on the country property of Bill Arkush, formerly doing business as Glacier Valley Brandy, officials said Tuesday.

Arkush said he arrived home Monday evening to find a pile of debris, equipment and barrels at the entrance to his driveway.

Stories and photos from The Associated Press

STARS AND STRIPES

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LT. COL. DANIEL R. TODD, USAF, Commandeer

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Stripes let Kerry preen

Regarding the Aug. 9 Stars and Stripes article "Kerry discusses his vision for military": This was a pretty good article, right up to the end when the senator said the country needs a candidate who understands "what it means to be deployed." I guess Stripes is not aware of the awesome four months Mr. Kerry spent in Vietnam; he calls this "two tours" and brags about three Purple Hearts, a Bronze Star and a Silver Star, which he then pretended to throw away as a publicity stunt to undermine the very veterans whom he calls the "Band of Brothers." This is an amazing record for a Swift boat operator who is in country for less than five months.

Even the great Gen. George Patton could not compete with a war hero like John Kerry. What has happened to the Stars and Stripes?

Molly Vail
Lexington, Mich.

Military no place for profanity

When I attended my newborn's briefing at Camp Carroll, we were told that soldiers in uniform are supposed to be prohibited from smoking or talking on a cell phone while walking down the street. Suppose, such practices detract from the professional appearance of our soldiers.

Recently, there was an article in Stars and Stripes about plans to enforce dress codes for personnel and their dependents in military facilities (CNS) who will dress down sailors if attire policy changes OK'd, (July 12). Again, there is a concern about the way our hosts may perceive us.

With all this concern about appearances, why are we not curtailing the bad language used by so many of our military personnel, both in and out of uniform? Go to any bus stop, PX, commissary or recreational facility and you will hear soldiers' conversations liberally filled with the "F-word" and other vulgarities. These personnel, both men and women, don't seem to be concerned that the people around them — men, women and children, both American and South Korean — may find their vocabulary offensive.

Being retired from the military, I under-

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stand that when you're in the field, and everything is going wrong, a few choice curs words can help relieve the stress. But just how much stress is involved in waiting for a bus or shopping? Usually, there are officers or senior noncommissioned officers present who are either taking part in these conversations or ignoring them.

If we really want to give a good impression, I suggest commanders and all personnel in leadership positions take the lead in cleaning up the language. It is not enough that we look like the most intelligent, well-trained personnel in the world; we must also sound like it.

Dixie Power Casero
Camp Carroll, South Korea

Writer cut corners with views

In response to the Aug. 8 letter "Don't follow leaders blindly," I suggest letter writer Gary Greene stop reading revisionist history — and grow up. As a lifelong Democrat and member of the military, I am deeply disillusioned by the hypocritical, moral highgroundness of liberal demagogues during the tenure of the Bush administration.

Mr. Greene's letter exemplifies their more well-honed and shrill contradictions. For example, despite Mr. Greene's criticism, there was and was not a few people were critical of slavery in the United States. It was called the "abolitionist movement," the "genocide" of American Indians he cites was actually a series of Indian wars that spanned more than 300 years, and involved atrocities on both sides; and what Mr. Greene advocates the German people and world should have done with Adolf Hitler he condemns our military for doing in Iraq with Saddam Hussein.

George W. Bush is our president after a close election because the institutions of law and government actually worked. That's not true in many other nations, and across much of history, precisely because of malcontents such as Mr. Greene.

Mr. Greene should get his facts straight: Ben Franklin was a patriot, and also said, "Don't throw stones at your neighbors, if your own windows are glass." One cannot "love" the military, then condemn servicemen's duty and moral obligation to obey the president. The only lie being told is the paranoid conspiracy theory the liberal Democrats are selling as broadsheet this election year. Please give it a rest and get back to the issues. To oppose the war is Mr. Greene's right, but to foment sedition and disobedience in our military because of his personal view is treacherous.

LT. Phil King
Okinawa

Good medical care appreciated

I was recently admitted to the 121st General Hospital for a hernia operation. The surgeon who performed the surgery, Deuk Hong, and the follow-on care I received while in the multicare unit was nothing less than exceptional.

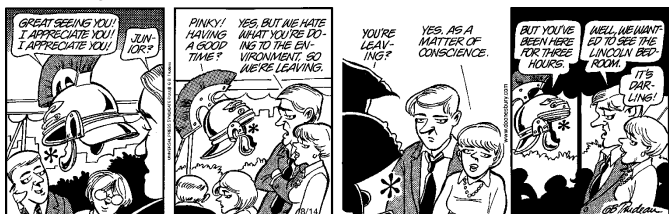
The nurses and staff of the MCU are true professionals and were quick to address all concerns during my stay. They are to be commended for their dedication to the nursing profession.

Please accept my gratitude for a job truly well done.

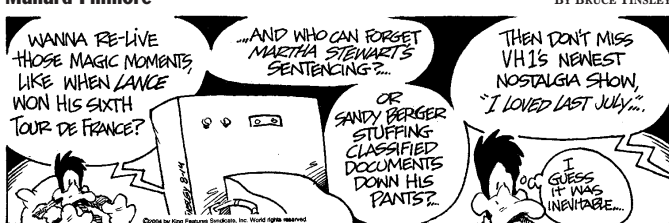
Norm Curran
Camp Carroll, South Korea

BY GARRY TRUDEAU

Doonesbury Flashbacks



Mallard Fillmore



BY BRUCE TINSLEY

Looking at the news

A weekly sampling of U.S. editorial cartoons



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Horoscope

The Leo moon and sun bring focus on family and people you consider to be like family. Including everyone is the key to having a good time — it's no effort at all to open up or reach out. Tomorrow brings the new moon, which is always a wonderful day to start relationships, projects or personal resolutions. Tonight, dream of what you want to create.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (August 14). Your artistry and creativity stand out from the rest, and you could make terrific money sharing your talents.

A situation you've been in for years suddenly feels quite tired in September. You'll be reorganizing your life in a way that helps you welcome abundance in all areas. Being recognized for your contribution happens in a big way in December.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Be thankful for those envious feelings.

They show you what you really want out of life. You can expect loved ones to get snooty or read signs and subtle life never before.

Everyone wants validation for opinions, including you.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You're decisive and sure of yourself, and you inspire confidence in others. Money and all the cares it brings are approached creatively, and you find the end of the day, you're ahead.

Don't skip on nutrition. **GEMINI (May 21-June 21).** Solitude is not your usual style, but you don't feel lonely while alone now, on the contrary, you gain through bright ideas. Listen to the silence, and you'll hear spiritual music.

Plan a trip, perhaps to a national park.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Exuberance will attract love. Encircle loved ones with your special kind of comfort, which includes a cozy, warm and cheerful home in which the cares of the world are released and strength of all is renewed.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Friends get emotionally heavy. Draw boundaries. To be better understood and more effective, apply the information in a book to your relationships. Try new beauty techniques — transformations go exceedingly well.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Doing what you want to do is not always in your best interest. You teach others through your maturity. Relax in the afternoon instead of waiting until the evening, when you are simply exhausted.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22). This day is well used getting caught up with everything that has slipped through the cracks recently. You're most productive in the absence of a loved one. It's extra preparation that ensures the success of a project.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21). Stay loose. Edgy feelings get in the way of work and play. Bargains and free advice are available. Make contact, and find out the latest information. Tonight, there is a chance to give back what was once lavished upon you.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). A powerful friend may desire you by asking for a favor. You know it benefits you to comply, but stop and think about what things may be attached before giving this.

Tonight, rest up, and eat light! **CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19).** It's one of those days when you are overly concerned with the feelings of others. Deal plainly and firmly in relationships, especially romantic ones. For big luck, analyze your expenses, and make cutbacks.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Being unpredictable has its pluses and minuses. You could upset conservative people in your midst, but you could also encounter a refreshingly good time. It's always luckier for you to be yourself. Go with the impulse.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Today calls for some adjustments and reaffirming of original goals. Don't be deluded. Your practical and creative solutions will overcome any obstacles! You have a chance to further your cause tonight and could find love, too.

Creators Syndicate

Joyce Jillson



Calvin and Hobbes



Jump Start



Zits



Cathy



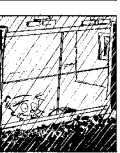
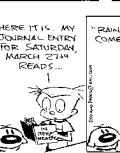
Hi and Lois



Beetle Bailey



Red and Rover



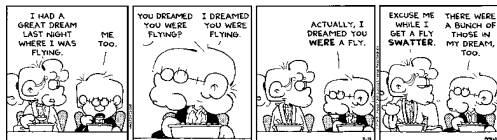
Better or Worse



Peanuts



Fotrot



B.C.



Baby Bites



Spider Man



Blondie



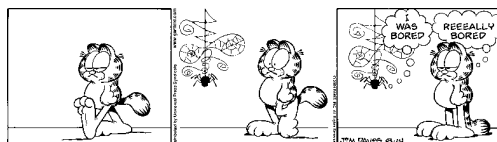
Dilbert



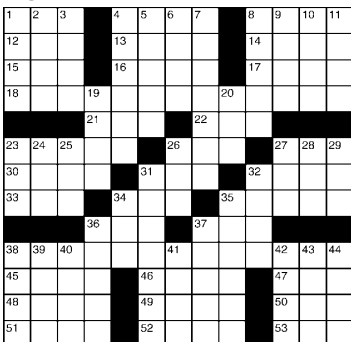
Hagar



Garfield



Eugene Sheffer Crossword



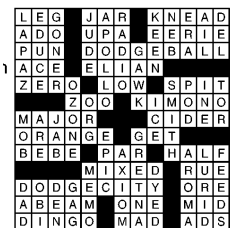
Across

- 1 Spam
4 Hertz rival
8 Hawk
12 Farmer's tool
13 Santa's reference
14 Eastern potatoe
15 Piercing tool
16 Aware of
17 Puerto
18 Be careful
21 "2001" computer
22 Piouette pivot
23 Jennifer Garner TV series
26 Brother of Jack and Bobby
27 See 29-Down
30 Make a
32-Across
31 Play with robots
32 Bank transaction
33 Mr. Chaney
34 Mardi Gras VIP
35 Elk, in Europe
36 "Casablanca" pianist
37 Chargin' butternut
38 Levi's super-obedient
45 Kitchen flooring, for short
46 Field mouse
47 Prior to
48 Loosen
49 State with certainty
50 Sartorial woe
51 Phantom's cover

Down

- 1 Spring phenomenon
2 Waterloo is there
3 Highlander
4 Greetings from the Big Island
5 Naugahyde coating
6 Ratio phrase
7 More corpulent
8 Limerick, for one
9 Send forth
10 Courteous
11 Rainstorm minuita
19 Election Day
20 Scepter
23 The whole shooting match
24 MGM mascot
25 B&B
26 Monkey suit
27 Excessively
28 Existed
29 With 27-Across, combination punch
31 Ouster
32 Actress Anderson
34 Brit. fliers
35 Greenskeepers' props
36 Frigten
37 Runs in neutral
38 Poor part of town
39 Ms. Turner
40 Remnants
41 Wander
42 Trick or treat, e.g.
43 Pennsylvania port
44 Calendar abbr.

Answer to Previous Puzzle



8-14

CRYPTOQUIP

ICASPMT RMAVX RBMOV
IOMYYXMCV TCXSX. MS
HBXS HCPT SFCG OKZC
OMZMTL KT SFC CVLC.
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: A FISH SANDWICH ENTERS A BAR. THE BARTENDER SAYS, "VERY SORRY, WE DON'T SERVE FOOD HERE."
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: V equals D

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Wis. offers condoms by kiosk

By TODD RICHMOND

The Associated Press

MADISON, Wis. — At North-central Technical College in Wausau, a computer kiosk that looks like a small automated teller machine sits just off a student lounge between a standard ATM and a copier.

But this kiosk doesn't dispense cash or make copies; it has a much more personal function — one that has outraged some conservatives.

For a clue, the screen flashes "Birth Control Supplies and Services."

The kiosk is one of three at state college campuses that allow women as young as 15 to mail order free condoms and birth control pills. A family planning group is testing the machines and state officials are intrigued.

To use the kiosk, people punch in personal information, including their monthly income and Social Security number and the authorization for release of their medical records.

The computer enrolls women in the state's Medicaid Family Planning Waiver. The waiver, which began in January, allows women between the ages of 15 and 44 who make less than \$17,224 a year to get contraceptives for free.

They also can use the computer to order either three months' worth of contraceptive patches, three months' worth of birth control pills or three dozen condoms through the mail. A nurse calls later to follow up.

Family Planning Health Services of Wausau hopes to generate enough interest that the state, local health departments and employers with underserved workers will borrow, rent or buy the kiosks.

Executive director Lon Newman said the machines will make it easier to get the word out about the waiver. About 48,000 women had enrolled in the program at the end of June, 2004 — about 11.5 percent of 300,000 eligible women, according to state figures.

But some conservatives are outraged at the use of the kiosks, saying easy access to condoms and birth control pills promote sex.

"This program is for girls as young as 15, which is ridiculous," said State Rep. Glenn Grothman, a Republican.

Kelda Helen Roys, executive director of Pro-Choice Wisconsin, on the other hand, called the kiosks a great tool to control pregnancies and blasted Republican legislators.

State officials are watching the experiment because it could help save the state money by reducing the number of pregnancies covered by Medicaid.

Teen loses bid to buy maker of gun that paralyzed him



Brandon Maxfield, 17, of Willits, Calif., was paralyzed when he was accidentally shot in the jaw in 1994. Maxfield, who won a lawsuit against the gun manufacturer Bryco & Jennings Arms, tried to buy the bankrupt company in order to destroy the guns.

BY LISA LEFF

The Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — Some times Brandon Maxfield forgets.

He will be crisscrossing down the street with his best friend, talking about pro wrestling, music and girls, when it dawns on him with a familiar flash of embarrassment that it's not his rain-bow-spiked hair strangers are staring at.

"Then I'll be like, oh yeah, I'm in a wheelchair," said the Willits, Calif., teenager, who was paralyzed from the neck down after being shot by a baby sitter a decade ago and gets around by manipulating mechanical sensors around his head.

Maxfield, 17, failed Thursday in a tense, quixotic gambit to buy and dismantle the company that made the gun that left him a quadriplegic.

His final bid of \$505,000 to buy

Bryco Arms, one of the nation's leading makers of inexpensive guns known as Saturday night specials, fell short.

Paul Jimenez, Bryco's former foreman, purchased the company for \$510,000, in spirited bidding that increased by \$5,000 increments from the opening bid of \$175,000.

Richard Ruggieri, who represented Brandon's Arns, the organization created to bid on the gun company, said Maxfield was very disappointed.

The teen and Ruggieri insist revenge is not their motivation — they simply want to make sure no one else is hurt.

"It started with horror, the realization that — notwithstanding the fact that we had this unanimous finding of defect — there was nothing in the law to prevent them from putting these defective guns back on the market," said Ruggieri, who took on

Maxfield's case in 2001 when no other lawyers would.

Ned Nashban, the lawyer representing Bryco owner Bruce Jennings in the bankruptcy, described Maxfield's acquisition attempt as a publicity stunt that only has delayed the gun maker's efforts to settle his debts.

"From our standpoint, it's not a moral question of keeping guns off the street or not," Nashban said. "Bankruptcy court is not the place to socially legislate. It's to create the most money to pay creditors."

Maxfield's life-changing injury happened when he was 7 and a 20-year-old family friend who was baby-sitting thought he heard a suspicious noise and grabbed a gun from a dresser drawer. The baby sitter called Brandon's mother, who instructed him to immediately unload the .38-caliber pistol. While trying to do this, the baby sitter accidentally pulled the trigger.

The bullet struck Brandon in the chin and went out through his neck, shattering his spine.

Since the accident, Maxfield has spent more than 500 days in the hospital and been treated for pneumonia 28 times. His spine is degenerating, and doctors say a metal rod must eventually be inserted in his neck to support it. But that will limit the mobility of his head, the only body part he can fully control.

"I always wanted to protect my kids and this is something you can't reverse and you can't erase," said Sue Stansberry, Maxfield's mother. "I wish now I had locked it up in a locked case. I didn't do that, and I will have to live with that for the rest of my life."

A jury in Oakland assigned more than half the blame for what happened to the boy's parents and the baby sitter who fired the gun.

But they said the gun maker also was liable because the pistol could be unloaded only when its trigger safety catch was switched off.

The jury awarded damages totaling \$50.9 million — an amount calculated to compensate Maxfield for pain and suffering, future medical and educational expenses, lost earnings and diminished life expectancy.

Since neither the parents nor the baby sitter have any money, the \$24 million awarded from Jennings and his companies represent most of what Maxfield can expect to get.

But he has yet to collect any money from Jennings, who shuttered his Costa Mesa, Calif., factory and moved to Florida.

Jennings filed off 25 employees and put his manufacturing business into bankruptcy.

Ruggieri maintains that Jimenez is only a front for the wealthy Jennings, who in a 1999 interview with Business Week magazine said that if his company were sued, he would "go away with the litigation passes by, then re-form and build guns in the new standard — if there is a new standard."

Maxfield, who is entering his senior year in high school and hopes to study marine biology or pursue a career in law, said that Jennings and his company frustrates and angers him that Jennings is, in his view, trying to pull a fast one.

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SCOREBOARD

AFN schedule

Times listed are Japan and Korea Standard time. Games are one hour ahead; Sunday and Monday are two hours ahead. Schedule subject to change without notice.

Television

AFN-Pacific/AFN-Korea

SAT, Aug. 14, at 9 a.m. — 2004 Summer Olympic Games: Opening ceremonies.
SUN, Aug. 15, at 1 a.m. — 2004 Summer Olympic Games.
SUN, Aug. 15, at 11 a.m. — 2004 Summer Olympic Games.
SUN, Aug. 15, at 1:30 p.m. — 2004 Summer Olympic Games.

AFN-Atlantic

SAT, Aug. 14, at 9 a.m. — 2004 Summer Olympic Games: Opening ceremonies.
SUN, Aug. 15, at 1 a.m. — 2004 Summer Olympic Games.
SUN, Aug. 15, at 11 a.m. — 2004 Summer Olympic Games.
SUN, Aug. 15, at 1:30 p.m. — 2004 Summer Olympic Games.
SUN, Aug. 15, at 8 p.m. — Pro baseball: Detroit vs. Anaheim.

AFN-Sports

SAT, Aug. 14, at 3 a.m. — Pro golf: 80th PGA Championship, second round.
SAT, Aug. 14, at 9 a.m. — Pro baseball: St. Louis vs. Atlanta (joint in progress).
SUN, Aug. 15, at 11 a.m. — Pro baseball: Kansas City vs. Oakland (joint in progress).

SAT, Aug. 14, at 4 p.m. — Pro football: NFL preseason: Kansas City vs. Cleveland.
SUN, Aug. 15, at 8 p.m. — Pro baseball: Minnesota vs. Cleveland.
SUN, Aug. 15, at 1 a.m. — Pro boxing: Jorge Arce vs. J.C. Candelo (joint live on cable).

SUN, Aug. 15, at 11 a.m. — Pro golf: 80th PGA Championship, third round.
SUN, Aug. 15, at 2 p.m. — Pro baseball: Chicago White Sox vs. Boston.
SUN, Aug. 15, at 11 a.m. — Auto racing: NASCAR Craftsman Truck Series Toyota Tundra 200.

SUN, Aug. 15, at 4 p.m. — Pro baseball: San Diego vs. Philadelphia.
SUN, Aug. 15, at 9 p.m. — 2004 Summer Olympic Games.

Radio

Korea — AFN Thunder-AM

SAT, Aug. 14, at 8 a.m. — Pro baseball: Chicago White Sox vs. Boston Red Sox.
SUN, Aug. 15, at 2 a.m. — Pro baseball: Los Angeles vs. Oakland.
SUN, Aug. 15, at 5 p.m. — Pro baseball: Kansas City vs. Oakland.
SUN, Aug. 15, at 8 p.m. — Pro baseball: San Diego vs. Cincinnati.

Oakland — AFN Surf 64-AM

SAT, Aug. 14, at 8 a.m. — Pro baseball: Chicago White Sox vs. Boston Red Sox.
SUN, Aug. 15, at 2 a.m. — Pro baseball: Los Angeles vs. Oakland.
SUN, Aug. 15, at 5 p.m. — Pro baseball: Kansas City vs. Oakland.
SUN, Aug. 15, at 8 p.m. — Pro baseball: San Diego vs. Cincinnati.

Pro soccer

Major League Soccer

Eastern Conference
MetroStars 9 6 5 32 36 71
Columbus 9 6 5 32 36 71
D.C. United 6 8 6 34 27 31
New England 9 6 7 22 21 29

Western Conference
Los Angeles 9 8 5 33 35 31
Kansas City 9 8 5 32 28 29
Portland 9 8 5 32 28 29
Colorado 6 7 8 26 21 21
San Jose 9 8 5 32 35 31

NOTE: Three points for victory, one point for tie.

Wednesday's games
D.C. United at San Jose
New England at Dallas
Portland at Los Angeles

Saturday's games
San Jose at Kansas City
New England at D.C. United
Portland at Chicago

Sunday's games
Columbus at Los Angeles
Dallas at MetroStars

Tennis

Idea Prokom Open

Thursday
At Sopocki Club, Teplany, Poland
Purse: Men, \$60,000 (1st, 10%); Women, \$30,000 (1st, 10%)
Surface: Clay-Outdoor
Singles

Second Round
Jiri Vacek, Czech Republic, def. Stefan Koucký, Austria, 6-4, 6-4
Juan Acasuso, Argentina, def. David Ferrer, Chile, 6-4, 7-6 (4)

Adrian Panu, Chile, def. Oliver Motz, Austria, 6-4, 6-4
Felix Mantilla, Spain, def. Albert Portas, Spain, 5-7, 7-5, 7-5

Women
Singles
Quarterfinals

Anastasiya Myskina (1), Russia, def. Iveta Benesova (5), Czech Republic, 6-4, 6-4

Klára Koukalová (11), Czech Republic, def. Lubomira Kolářová, Slovakia, 6-2, 6-1
Flavia Pennetta (9), Italy, def. Nuria Llagostera Vives, Spain, 6-2, 7-6 (4)

Marta Domagala, Poland, def. Marta Marrero (10), Spain, 6-2, 7-6 (4)

Wednesday's games
Men
Second Round

Rafael Nadal (1), Spain, def. Arnaud Di Pasquale, France, 6-2, 6-4
Nicola Pietrangeli (5), Italy, def. Marcel Sestini, Switzerland, 6-4, 6-3

Women
Second Round

Marta Marrero (10), Spain, def. Iveta Benesova (5), Czech Republic, 6-2, 7-6 (4)
Dina Safina (1), Russia, def. Dina Safina (1), Russia, 6-2, 6-4

Thursday's games
Men
Second Round

Marta Marrero (10), Spain, def. Iveta Benesova (5), Czech Republic, 6-2, 7-6 (4)
Dina Safina (1), Russia, def. Dina Safina (1), Russia, 6-2, 6-4

Women
Second Round

Marta Marrero (10), Spain, def. Iveta Benesova (5), Czech Republic, 6-2, 7-6 (4)
Dina Safina (1), Russia, def. Dina Safina (1), Russia, 6-2, 6-4

Friday's games
Men
Second Round

Marta Marrero (10), Spain, def. Iveta Benesova (5), Czech Republic, 6-2, 7-6 (4)
Dina Safina (1), Russia, def. Dina Safina (1), Russia, 6-2, 6-4

Women
Second Round

Marta Marrero (10), Spain, def. Iveta Benesova (5), Czech Republic, 6-2, 7-6 (4)
Dina Safina (1), Russia, def. Dina Safina (1), Russia, 6-2, 6-4

Saturday's games
Men
Second Round

Marta Marrero (10), Spain, def. Iveta Benesova (5), Czech Republic, 6-2, 7-6 (4)
Dina Safina (1), Russia, def. Dina Safina (1), Russia, 6-2, 6-4

Women
Second Round

Marta Marrero (10), Spain, def. Iveta Benesova (5), Czech Republic, 6-2, 7-6 (4)
Dina Safina (1), Russia, def. Dina Safina (1), Russia, 6-2, 6-4

Sunday's games
Men
Second Round

Marta Marrero (10), Spain, def. Iveta Benesova (5), Czech Republic, 6-2, 7-6 (4)
Dina Safina (1), Russia, def. Dina Safina (1), Russia, 6-2, 6-4

Women
Second Round

Marta Marrero (10), Spain, def. Iveta Benesova (5), Czech Republic, 6-2, 7-6 (4)
Dina Safina (1), Russia, def. Dina Safina (1), Russia, 6-2, 6-4

Monday's games
Men
Second Round

Marta Marrero (10), Spain, def. Iveta Benesova (5), Czech Republic, 6-2, 7-6 (4)
Dina Safina (1), Russia, def. Dina Safina (1), Russia, 6-2, 6-4

Women
Second Round

Marta Marrero (10), Spain, def. Iveta Benesova (5), Czech Republic, 6-2, 7-6 (4)
Dina Safina (1), Russia, def. Dina Safina (1), Russia, 6-2, 6-4

Tuesday's games
Men
Second Round

Marta Marrero (10), Spain, def. Iveta Benesova (5), Czech Republic, 6-2, 7-6 (4)
Dina Safina (1), Russia, def. Dina Safina (1), Russia, 6-2, 6-4

Women
Second Round

Marta Marrero (10), Spain, def. Iveta Benesova (5), Czech Republic, 6-2, 7-6 (4)
Dina Safina (1), Russia, def. Dina Safina (1), Russia, 6-2, 6-4

Wednesday's games
Men
Second Round

Marta Marrero (10), Spain, def. Iveta Benesova (5), Czech Republic, 6-2, 7-6 (4)
Dina Safina (1), Russia, def. Dina Safina (1), Russia, 6-2, 6-4

Women
Second Round

Marta Marrero (10), Spain, def. Iveta Benesova (5), Czech Republic, 6-2, 7-6 (4)
Dina Safina (1), Russia, def. Dina Safina (1), Russia, 6-2, 6-4

Thursday's games
Men
Second Round

Marta Marrero (10), Spain, def. Iveta Benesova (5), Czech Republic, 6-2, 7-6 (4)
Dina Safina (1), Russia, def. Dina Safina (1), Russia, 6-2, 6-4

Women
Second Round

Marta Marrero (10), Spain, def. Iveta Benesova (5), Czech Republic, 6-2, 7-6 (4)
Dina Safina (1), Russia, def. Dina Safina (1), Russia, 6-2, 6-4

Greens in Regulation Pct.

1. Vijay Singh, 72.6%; 2. Geoff O'Connell, 71.4%; 3. Chris Smith, 70.7%; 4. Barry Baird, 70.4%; 5. Phil Mickelson, 70.3%; 6. Sergio Garcia, 69.9%; 7. Carlos Franca, 69.6%; 8. Matt Kuchar, 69.3%; 9. Kenny Perry, 69.1%; 10. Stephen Ames, 69.2%.

Total Driving
1. (Tie), Geoff O'Connell and Jeff Brehaut, 79.3; 2. Lucas Glover, 81.4; 3. Vijay Singh, 81.5; 4. Geoff O'Connell, 81.6; 5. Chad Campbell, 82.3; 7. (Tie), Brian Brehaut and Zach Johnson, 84.9; 8. Retief Goosen, 87.10; 9. Ben Curtis, 87.10.

Putting Average
1. Stewart Cink, 1.72; 2. Vijay Singh, 1.72; 3. John Daly, 1.72; 4. (Tie), Nick Price and Matt Kuchar, 1.73; 5. (Tie), Fred Couples and Mark Hensley, 1.74; 6. (Tie), Fred Couples and Mark Hensley, 1.74; 7. (Tie), Fred Couples and Mark Hensley, 1.74; 8. (Tie), Fred Couples and Mark Hensley, 1.74; 9. (Tie), Fred Couples and Mark Hensley, 1.74; 10. (Tie), Fred Couples and Mark Hensley, 1.74.

Birdie Average
1. Phil Mickelson, 3.6; 2. Vijay Singh, 3.5; 3. (Tie), Phil Mickelson and Vijay Singh, 3.4; 4. (Tie), Phil Mickelson and Vijay Singh, 3.3; 5. (Tie), Phil Mickelson and Vijay Singh, 3.2; 6. (Tie), Phil Mickelson and Vijay Singh, 3.1; 7. (Tie), Phil Mickelson and Vijay Singh, 3.0; 8. (Tie), Phil Mickelson and Vijay Singh, 2.9; 9. (Tie), Phil Mickelson and Vijay Singh, 2.8; 10. (Tie), Phil Mickelson and Vijay Singh, 2.7.

Eagles (Holes per)
1. Nick Price, 29.2; 2. Vijay Singh, 28.4; 3. John Daly, 28.4; 4. Mike Heinen, 28.1; 5. Paul Stricker, 28.1; 6. Harrison Frazar, 28.1; 7. (Tie), Aron Oberholzer, 28.1; 8. (Tie), Geoff O'Connell, 28.1; 9. (Tie), Nick Price, 28.1; 10. (Tie), Nick Price, 28.1.

Save Percentage
1. Len Mattiace, 66.2%; 2. Joe Doonan, 64.8%; 3. Dan Fennelly, 63.4%; 4. Geoff O'Connell, 62.7%; 5. (Tie), Fred Couples and Mark Hensley, 62.7%; 6. (Tie), Fred Couples and Mark Hensley, 62.7%; 7. (Tie), Fred Couples and Mark Hensley, 62.7%; 8. (Tie), Fred Couples and Mark Hensley, 62.7%; 9. (Tie), Fred Couples and Mark Hensley, 62.7%; 10. (Tie), Fred Couples and Mark Hensley, 62.7%.

Al-Round Average
1. John Daly, 28.2; 2. Vijay Singh, 27.9; 3. Phil Mickelson, 26.2; 4. Retief Goosen, 26.1; 5. Geoff O'Connell, 26.0; 6. Stephen Ames, 25.7; 7. (Tie), Stewart Cink, 26.0; 8. (Tie), Davis Love III, 26.0; 9. (Tie), Phil Mickelson and Vijay Singh, 26.0; 10. (Tie), Phil Mickelson and Vijay Singh, 26.0.

Yanmar's games
Yuki & Hiroshima 3

Pacific League
W L T Pct GB
Daiei 62 43 1 58.8
Nippon Ham 61 44 2 58.1
Yokohama 60 45 3 57.4
Hiroshima 59 46 4 56.7
Yokohama 58 47 5 56.0
Hiroshima 57 48 6 55.3
Yokohama 56 49 7 54.6
Yokohama 55 50 8 53.9
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Mariners end Cardinals' win streak

Easley drives in three in support of Burnett; teams beat hurricane

The Associated Press

MIAMI — A.J. Burnett pitched seven innings, Damion Easley drove in three runs and the Florida Marlins took advantage of sloppy defense to beat St. Louis 8-2 on Thursday, ending the Cardinals' seven-game winning streak.

Burnett (3-5) allowed five hits and two runs and struck out seven. It was perhaps his best performance since returning in June after reconstructive elbow surgery forced him to miss the 2003 season.

Larry Walker hit his first home run since joining the Cardinals last week, and his seventh of the season. But he little else went right for the NL Central leaders, who lost for just the sixth time since the All-Star break.

Cardinals manager Tony La Russa rested five starters in the afternoon game, and his patchwork lineup committed three errors and at least two other defensive lapses that hurt Matt Morris (12-8).

Morris allowed two hits and eight runs — four earned — in six-plus innings.

The starting time was moved up six hours because of rain associated with Hurricane Charley. Rain delayed play for 42 minutes after the first inning, but sunshine followed.

Mets 2, Astros 1: Joe McEwing stroked a go-ahead single in the seventh inning and host New York beat Houston and former New York Yankees star Andy Pettitte.

Morris allowed two runs and four hits in 5 1/2 innings, walking four and striking out five.

David Weathers (6-7) finished the sixth before McEwing's deciding hit one inning later.

Victor Zambrano (2-0) won his second straight start since the Mets acquired him from Tampa Bay on July 30, allowing an unearned run and two hits in seven innings.

In Wednesday's NL games:

Phillies 15, Rockies 4: Randy Wolf homered twice, giving him three this season, and



Florida's Damion Easley is greeted after homering against St. Louis in the first inning Thursday.

threw seven innings to lead the host Phillies.

Wolf, who has four career homers, went 3-for-3 and scored three runs in becoming the first major league pitcher to homer twice in a game since the Phillies' Robert Person on June 2, 2002, against Montreal.

Wolf (5-7) won for only the third time since June 1, allowing four runs, striking out six and walking none in seven innings.

Jim Thome also homered twice, Chase Utley hit a three-run homer and Jimmy Rollins added a two-run shot for the Phillies, who lost the first two games of the series to Colorado.

Dodgers 11, Reds 1: Jose Hernandez hit a bases-loaded triple and a two-run homer and Shawn Green added a three-run shot for the visiting Dodgers. The NL West leaders won for the seventh time in nine games.

Cardinals 1, Marlins 0: Jeff Suppan (0-6) allowed just two hits in eight-plus innings, Edgar Renteria singled home the only run

and the visiting Cardinals extended their winning streak to seven games.

Braves 10, Brewers 3: Adam LaRoche had his first career two-homer game and J.D. Drew added a solo shot. Charles Thomas had two hits for the Braves, including a two-run single after a brief power outage in the fifth.

Pirates 8, Giants 6 (11): Craig Wilson's two-run homer off Dustin Hermanson (4-5) gave host Pittsburgh its fourth straight win.

Expos 7, Diamondbacks 3: A grand slam by Brian Schneider capped a six-run fourth inning and helped extend visiting Arizona's losing streak to six.

Astros 5, Mets 4 (10): Brad Ausmus' RBI single in the 10th ended the game played through a steady rain until a 55-minute delay in the sixth.

Cubs 5, Padres 1: Carlos Zambrano (11-6) threw eight innings for host Chicago in his return from a five-game suspension.

Jimenez's RBI single beats L.A.

The Associated Press

CINCINNATI — D'Angelo Jimenez singled in the go-ahead run in the eighth inning and the Cincinnati Reds rallied past the Los Angeles Dodgers 6-5 Thursday to avoid a three-game sweep.

The Reds scored three times in the eighth off Darren Dreifort (1-3), including a two-run homer by Willy Mo Pena, his 19th.

Adam Dunn led off with a walk, and Pena homered to tie it. Barry Larkin singled one out later and, after Darren Bragg walked, pinch-runner Ryan Freel scored on Jimenez's single.

Gabe White (1-1) got two outs and Danny Graves pitched a perfect ninth for his 36th save.

Jason Grabowski and Adrian Beltre homered to put Los Angeles ahead 3-0 in the third.

Grabowski's homer, his seventh, was a two-run shot. Beltre's solo drive was his 32nd.

Dodgers starter Wilson Alvarez pitched 5 1/2 innings and allowed six hits and three runs. He struck out four and walked none.

Alvarez allowed just two baserunners on two hits through three innings, but jam a two-on, none-out jam in the fourth.

Sean Casey's leadoff single took a bad hop and bounced off the chest of first baseman Hee Seop Choo. Dunn followed with a double down the right-field line.

Casey scored on a sacrifice fly by Jason LaRue, and Dunn scored when Juan Castro's soft liner dropped into shallow right field for a single.

Pinch-hitter Jacob Cruz singled in a run in the sixth to make it 5-3.

Yet again, injury stops Griffey

BY TERRY KINNEY

The Associated Press

CINCINNATI — Ken Griffey Jr. will miss the rest of the season because of a torn right hamstring, the latest setback in a long line of injuries for Cincinnati's All-Star outfielder.

Team medical director Dr. Timothy Kremchek said an MRI exam showed Griffey ruptured his hamstring just west of San Francisco. He will have surgery Monday.

Griffey, who hit his 500th career home run earlier this season, could be fully recovered in time for spring training, Kremchek said.

The Reds said Griffey was hurt while making a sliding catch in right field. He had moved over from his usual spot in center field for the game, his first action in nearly four weeks since tearing his hamstring in Milwaukee.

He had a complete rupture of the hamstring off the bone," Kremchek said. "He knew it wasn't right, and that's why he

hadn't really played since he injured it in San Francisco.

"He didn't come back (to Cincinnati) earlier because I think he was hoping he would be able to get over this and pinch hit or he'd be able to do something to help the team."

The injury is similar to one Griffey had on his left side three years ago. But that one was a partial tear that healed without surgery, Kremchek said.

"Knowing he's going to be out for the year, it's a really big blow," Reds closer Danny Graves said after Cincinnati's 11-1 loss to Los Angeles. "Nobody really suspected anything. To find out in the middle of the game was very discouraging."

Catcher Jason LaRue said he was surprised by the news that reached the dugout in about the third inning.

"He said he didn't really feel anything," LaRue said. "But I guess it wasn't getting better."

Shortstop Barry Larkin said Griffey often endured pain in silence, or wasn't affected by it as much as some players.

"He's got a tremendously high tolerance for pain," Larkin said.

"He's my buddy. I hate to see it happen to him, both personally and professionally," Larkin said. "He was doing well. He seemed to be getting his stroke back. And he was happy again. In years past, I don't think he had as much fun as this year."

Griffey has been plagued by injuries in recent years.

He missed more than a month in 2001 because of a torn hamstring that bothered him throughout that season. He spent two long stints on the DL in 2002 because of a torn knee tendon and a torn right hamstring.

He was on the DL twice again last year for a dislocated right shoulder and torn ankle tendon.

This year, he was voted All-Star starter for the 12th time, but had to skip the game after straining his right hamstring.

Griffey played in 83 of the Reds' 113 games, hitting 253 with 20 homers and 60 RBIs. He had just one homer since hitting No. 500 on June 20.

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Martinez tosses first shutout in 4 years

The Associated Press

BOSTON — Pedro Martinez struck out 10 in a six-inning first shutout in almost four years and the Boston Red Sox beat the Tampa Bay Devil Rays 6-0 Thursday for their fifth win in six games.

Martinez (13-4) walked none and passed Bob Feller and Warren Spahn for 21st place in career strikeouts with 2,590. He threw 109 pitches and extended his domination of Tampa Bay.

He also beat the Devil Rays in his previous shutout and complete game. He blanked them 8-0 on Aug. 29, 2000, then went all nine innings in a 3-2

AL Roundup

win last Sept. 16.

Martinez allowed just five singles, a double and did not let a runner past second base. It was his 20th career shutout and 42nd complete game.

The right-hander has three straight double-digit shutout games and four overall this year. He is 9-1 since losing at Toronto on May 16.

He got plenty of support as the Red Sox hit well for the second straight game.

David Ortiz and Bill Mueller each had three of Boston's 15 hits and Ortiz had two RBIs, giving him a career-high 502. He had 101 last season.

Tigers 5, Athletics 3: Rondell White hit a tiebreaking homer in the sixth inning, Craig Monroe connected two batters later and the Detroit Tigers closed out a three-game series at Oakland with a victory.

Mike Morath (9-7) pitched seven solid innings to win his fourth straight decision.

Monroe finished with three RBIs, adding in run-scoring double in the fourth that tied the game at 2 and an eighth-inning single to close Dmitri Young.

The Tigers took two of three from the AL West-leading A's.



Pedro Martinez deliver a pitch against the Tampa Bay Devil Rays on Thursday in Boston.

In Wednesday's AL games:

Red Sox 14, Devil Rays 4: Kevin Millar had four hits and four RBIs in the first five innings for the Red Sox in Boston.

Derek Lowe (10-10) benefited from Boston's 15-hit attack. He went 5¹/₂ innings with four strikeouts and one walk.

Yankees 4, Rangers 2: Derek Jeter hit a solo homer and Tanyon Sturtz pitched five innings in a spot start for visiting New York.

Sturtz (4-2), moved into the rotation because Javier Vazquez has pink eye, allowed two runs on three hits in the first inning, but gave up just two more hits.

Tigers 11, Athletics 3: Dmitri Young hit a three-run homer, Wilfredo Ledezma (2-0) pitched 5¹/₂ innings to earn his first

victory as a starter this season and Detroit beat the host Athletics.

Indians 3, Blue Jays 2: C.C. Sabathia (9-6) pitched seven innings and rookie Grady Sizemore drove in the go-ahead run with a sacrifice fly in the sixth, leading the host Indians over Toronto.

Royals 4, White Sox 2: Darrell May (9-12) didn't allow a hit until two outs in the sixth, Mike Sweeney hit a two-run homer and visiting Kansas City ended a five-game losing streak.

Mariners 4, Twins 3: Pinch runner Willie Bloomquist advanced to second on Juan Pincut's error, then stole third and scored when catcher Henry Blanco's throw appeared to ricochet off his helmet toward the third-base dugout to give the Mariners a victory in Seattle.

Piazza on DL; LHP Glavine out two weeks

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Mike Piazza, the New York Mets' top hitter, and left-hander Tom Glavine, one of the club's best pitchers, will be out until late August because of injuries.

Piazza was placed on the 15-day disabled list Wednesday, retroactive to Aug. 7, because of inflammation in his left knee.

The Mets said that Glavine won't pitch again until at least Aug. 14.

21 as recoverers from injuries received in an automobile accident. Glavine was hurt Tuesday while riding in a taxi cab traveling from LaGuardia Airport to nearby Shea Stadium, and lost his two front teeth. He missed his scheduled start Wednesday against Houston.

Piazza, an 11-time All-Star, is batting .276 with 17 homers and 44 RBIs this season, but has slumped badly since the end of June. Glavine has an 8-10 record.

Marlins activate Benitez

MIAMI — Closer Armando Benitez was activated from the disabled list Thursday by the Florida Marlins after being sidelined for three weeks with elbow inflammation.

Benitez ranks fourth in the major leagues with 33 saves and his ERA of 1.25 ranked third among relievers.

Mussina sharp in rehab outing

COLUMBUS, Ohio — New York Yankees right-hander Mike Mussina pitched three scoreless innings Wednesday night in a rehabilitation start for Class AAA Columbus.

Mussina (9-6) went on the disabled list July 6 because of a stiff right elbow.

Boldin's prognosis: out 8 weeks

The Associated Press

FLAGSTAFF, Ariz. — Arizona wide receiver Anquan Boldin, last season's offensive rookie of the year, underwent arthroscopic knee surgery Wednesday and could be sidelined at least eight weeks.

Coach Dennis Green initially said an MRI found "a slight tear" in the cartilage and thought Boldin would be able to return within two weeks. But during the procedure, doctors found and repaired a more significant tear, Green said.

"We are looking at what is typically an eight- to 12-week injury," Green said about the length of Boldin's rehabilitation.

That means Boldin, Arizona's only Pro Bowl player last year after setting an NFL rookie record with 101 catches, may not be back until at least early October — a severe blow to Green's plan to juice up the offense. Two of the three young receivers who figured to start in his preferred three-wideout set are injured.

Two of them, Bryant Johnson, had a boot removed which he wore for more than a month to protect the stress fracture in his right foot. Johnson, a first-year, first-round draft pick, planned to begin full-speed running within two weeks and return to action soon.

NFL Briefs

Larry Fitzgerald, drafted No. 3 overall this year, has been practicing the routes of all three receiving positions.

Ravens' Lewis to go trial in middle of season

ATLANTA — Jamal Lewis' drug conspiracy trial is scheduled to begin on Nov. 1, the middle of the NFL season.

The date, set Thursday by a federal court, comes between the eighth and ninth weeks of the season, meaning that if the trial goes on as scheduled, Lewis could miss a number of games. The Ravens are at Philadelphia on Oct. 31, then play host to Cleveland in a night game the following Sunday.

Lewis and Angelo Jackson, a childhood friend, are charged with conspiracy to possess with the intent to distribute cocaine and using a cell phone in violation of federal law. Jackson is additionally charged with attempted cocaine possession.

Last season, Lewis became the fifth player in NFL history to rush for more than 2,000 yards. In his final game, he fell short of Eric

Dickerson's record of 2,105 yards, finishing with 2,066.

Lions LB Bailey out longer than initially expected

ALLEN PARK, Mich. — Linebacker Boss Bailey will miss much of the season while recovering from knee surgery.

Bailey injured his right knee in an Aug. 3 practice. He underwent arthroscopic surgery Wednesday in Athens, Ga., where doctors discovered torn cartilage that had not shown up in previous tests.

Coach Steve Mariucci declined to put a timetable on Bailey's return, but said the Lions hope to have him back this season.

Shockey a little sore after first practice since surgery

ALBANY, N.Y. — Pro Bowl tight end Jeremy Shockey felt a little soreness on Thursday after practicing with the New York Giants for the first time since having foot surgery in June.

Shockey felt the soreness was the result of having too much time between plays on Wednesday.

"The hardest thing was they limited me," Shockey said. "They only let me to go one rep every period, so I got cold. That was more dangerous because I was sitting there the whole time and you can pull a muscle like that."

Shockey had a screw inserted in his right foot June 22.

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Yokota begins drive for 5th straight title

Four-time Rising Bowl champion opens workouts with 56 players

BY VINCE LITTLE

Stars and Stripes

YOKOTA AIR BASE, Japan — Mindful of its robust tradition — not to mention a Pacific-record 39-game winning streak — the Yokota High School football team went back to work Thursday.

The Panthers, who held voluntary workouts throughout the summer, began mandatory two-a-days with 56 players, their highest total in the last four years. It certainly was an encouraging sign for head coach Tim Pujol, whose team begins its pursuit of a fifth straight Rising Bowl championship when it opens the season Sept. 4 at home against Robert D. Edwards.

"I was pleased," Pujol said. "We have a lot of new faces out here. But they showed good enthusiasm and a lot of potential. For the first day, I'm pretty happy."

Yokota will work out twice a day through Aug. 24, with morning-only sessions planned each Saturday. The Panthers will face Japanese high school teams in scrimmages at Bonk Field on Aug. 21 and Aug. 28.

Pujol was missing a few players involved with the base's summer hire program, which ended Friday, along with others on vacations. But all who showed up Thursday were thrilled to be back in helmets and pads.

"It feels good," said junior cornerback Shamarr Howell, one of three players who experienced double-digit weight gain through offseason conditioning. "I've been working all summer for this. I was even getting up on Saturday mornings to work out with my dad, when everybody else was still asleep."

In senior tailback Kenny Harris, in his third year with the team, said Yokota's veterans headed into the preseason highly aware of the team's impressive streaks. "They're a big thing," he said. "It's a big focus. But we've just got to go day by day."

"I'm pumped for it. I want to get the season going. It's good to see all the young kids here, too. We want to teach them what this program is all about."

Added senior tailback/safety Chris Rosch, "It weighs a lot on the seniors. This is our last year, and we want to complete it. When we practice, we're thinking about it. We want to keep them intact."

Faced with the Tokyo area's hottest summer in 10 years, Pujol is keeping tabs on the temperature. He gets the heat-stress condition levels from the base's weather flight and adjusts water breaks accordingly.

"We're stressing nutrition and hydration," he said. "We're giving them a heads-up on how much they should be taking in."



JIM SCHULZ/Stars and Stripes

Yokota Panthers quarterback Shawn Nakov practices throwing the football during the first practice of the season at Yokota High School on Thursday afternoon.

Yokota returns six players from the 28 on the roster for last year's 31-3 win over the Kadena Buccaneers in the Rising Sun Bowl. While the dynasty chatter has been tossed around, Pujol said it's not part of the team's focus.

"It's probably on their minds somewhat, because we had a whole offseason to think about it," he said, "but we don't talk about it with them. We're trying to look further than that. We want to see this new group of players match the feats of last year's team."

"If you work hard, winning streaks take care of themselves."

But it's nice having lofty goals, Pujol said.

"I think it works mostly in our favor," he added. "The kids have an expectation level and that helps them carry a little bit of confidence."

E-mail Vince Little at: littlev@strips.osd.mil

Games: Ancient Greeks looked for an edge, too

GAMES, FROM BACK PAGE

The first recorded incident of cheating occurred in 388 B.C., when the boxer Eupolus of Thessaly bribed three opponents to take dives.

Others were induced to swap allegiances, often at the risk of exile from their homelands. The city-state of Syracuse was as notorious as New York Yankees owner George Steinbrenner in its quest for free agents that would bring religious favor and glory.

When Syracuse induced sprint champion Asyletos to quit Kroton in southern Italy, fans in his hometown tore down his statue and turned his house into a prison.

Olympic corruption peaked under Roman influence: In A.D. 67, emperor Nero bribed the judges to include poetry reading as an event. They also declared him the champion, overlooking that he fell out and didn't finish the race.

For the fractious city-states of the empire, the Games held every four years offered a slightly less violent respite from their near-constant state of war.

Artists and spectators from all parts of the realm were purchased and sent to the games by passage to and from the neutral site.

The experience of competing against — or cheering alongside — battalions of rivals brought out the best and worst in human nature, especially when immortality was at stake.

"Sport was sort of like war," says University of Texas-Arlington classical history scholar David M. Pritchard.

"Participation wasn't enough. They wanted to win so badly, and they feared losing so much. What we're willing to do to win says as much about our societies as the games."

Experts differ on the number of Olympic events. Was it 14 or 18? The mule cart race was held for just 56 years in the 5th century B.C. And, should the competition allow with 10,500 athletes from 202 nations.

A few events have persisted over the millennia, like the discus, javelin, running, wrestling and boxing — although the ancient versions often had different rules. Other events vanished with the empire, like the full-armed wrestling of the pankration, which resembled a bar fight that allowed finger-breaking and genital punching.

Only first-place winners were crowned with laurel wreaths, but the rewards hardly ended there. Today's concept of amateur status would have been

foreign in ancient Greece.

These champions were the Michael Jordans of their day, showered with fame and prizes, including huge annual stipends and prized commodities like the best olive oil, free meals and theater seats, homeward-bound stables, statues and sex partners.

Excavation of athletic facilities show differences with modern stadiums, too. Instead of two oval tracks, the straight track, or stade, at Olympia is 198.28 meters (about two football fields).

Runners raced its length and rounded a post at the far end. In some events, they might do this 15 times.

The first Olympic champion was a cook named Korobos who ran in 776 B.C. Perhaps the greatest runner was Leonidas of Rhodes, who won all three foot-race events in four consecutive Olympics beginning in 164 B.C.

The balls or starting line in Greek tracks usually was made of stone blocks set in the ground; runners would wedge their toes into parallel grooves carved in the stone, leaning forward.

Seventy miles from Athens at Nemea, reconstructions by University of California-Berkeley archaeologist Steven G. Miller suggest races were controlled by a judge standing in a manhole behind — and below — the poised runners. He pulled them up the ropes that kept a hinged gate upright. When the trumpet blared, the judge dropped the ropes, the gate fell and the runners took off.

In later centuries, the whole system — called a hysplex — became more automated with pulleys and a spring.

Also at Nemea, Miller has excavated the locker room where athletes slathered themselves with oil, and the vaulting room that leads to the track. Its walls still bear graffiti, some of it reflecting the homoerotic nature of the ancient Games.

Miller cites an example in which one athlete praised the physique of another, writing, "AKRO-TATOS KALOS" or "Akrotatos is beautiful." Another athlete wrote "TOU GRACANTOS" or "to the guy who wrote it!"

That the ancient Games were a very human spectacle of blood, sweat, sex, money and stench doesn't diminish their historical and cultural importance, experts say. Nor should it tarnish the athletes' achievements.

"It really is a thrill," Miller says, "to be a part of ancient Greece, if only for a few minutes as you crouch in the starting room, through the tunnel, to put your toes in the ancient starting grooves."

Coach: Jones will run on U.S. 400 relay

The Associated Press

GEORGIPOULIS, Greece — Milton Jones is lining up for the 400-meter relay team, and if all goes as planned, he will run all three rounds of the event in the Athens Olympics, the U.S. women's coach said Thursday.

Coach Sue Humphrey said Jones and three other sprinters had separated themselves from the others.

The women's relay squad would be, in order, Angela Williams, Jones, Lauryn Williams and LaTasha Colander.

It's the same team that ran 41.37 seconds in Munich on Sunday.

"That's three-thirtieths of a second off the world record," Humphrey said before she and a group of athletes left for Athens Thursday evening to participate in Friday night's opening ceremony.

Jones lately has qualified for the long jump after winning an unprecedented five medals in Sydney four years ago.

The U.S. Anti-Doping Agency is investigating Jones but has not charged her with any offense. Humphrey has said that she has talked about Jones' situation with U.S. Track & Field officials and has heard nothing that would prevent her from being a part of the relay squad.

Olympic briefs

Humphrey said she would prefer to use the same team throughout all three rounds. That would mean Jones would compete in the long jump finals and the relay semifinals. But, because of injuries, Williams and LaTasha Colander are entered only in the 100 meters, with finals Aug. 21. Angela Williams is in the relay pool, meaning she's not entered in any individual events. Humphrey said she has not decided on the fifth and sixth members of the team.

Staley will carry U.S. flag

ATHENS, Greece — Dawn Staley will carry the U.S. flag during Friday's opening ceremony, a highlight in an Olympic career that includes two gold medals.

Staley, the first basketball player to lead the U.S. delegation in an Olympics, was chosen by captains from each of the U.S. teams.

Staley, 34, plays for the WNBA's Charlotte Sting and coaches the women's basketball team at Temple. Staley is the University of Virginia's career leading scorer with 2,135 points.

S. Korean sets archery record

ATHENS, Greece — South Korean Park Sung-hyun set an indi-

vidual world record of 682 points Thursday during the ranking round of the Olympic archery competition. Park broke the 72-arrow mark of 679, set in May by Italian Natalia Valeeva.

The team of Park, Lee Sung-jin and Yun Mi-jin also set a world record of 2,030 for the 216-arrow ranking round. The mark of 1,994 also was set by South Korea, in the 2000 Sydney Olympics. Yun was a member of that team.

V. Williams, Henin-Hardenne could meet in quarterfinals

ATHENS, Greece — Defending singles gold medalist Venus Williams and top-ranked Justine Henin-Hardenne were drawn Thursday to face each other in the quarterfinals in the Athens Olympics.

Williams, seeded sixth after a year of injury problems, will open against wild-card entry Melinda Cink, a Hungarian ranked 103rd. Henin-Hardenne, coming off a viral infection and sidelined since a second-round loss at the French Open — also begins against a Czech player, 66th-ranked Barbora Strycova.

The No. 1 man, Roger Federer, was drawn to face Nikolay Davydenko of Russia, while No. 2 Andrei Roddick starts against Flavio Saretta of Brazil. Play begins Sunday.



A painted vessel showing runners, dated 540 B.C., is on display at an exhibition of the National Archaeological Museum in Athens in July.

Clarke off to fast start in PGA Championship

Woods, Daly struggle early

By PETE HERRERA
The Associated Press

HAVEN, Wis. — On a course that reminds him of home, Northern Ireland's Darren Clarke birdied his first four holes Thursday and shot a 7-under-par 65 for the early first-round lead of the PGA Championship.

He led Ernie Els and Justin Leonard by a stroke after the morning groups completed play.

Vijay Singh, the tour's leading money winner with four victories this season, shot a 67. So did Scott Verplank, who needs a high finish this week to have a chance to make the Ryder Cup team. Five others with morning tee times shot 68.

Masters champion Phil Mickelson birdied the first three holes in his afternoon round and was 2 under through eight holes.

"We got fortunate with the conditions this morning," Clarke said. "The greens were holding, we were able to fire at flags."

It didn't help Tiger Woods, who got off to a disastrous start, then momentarily steadied his game with one big swing. Still, he finished with a 75.

"I got off to a nice start and ran into a little bit of a problem," Woods said. "If I would have just

putted normally, I would have shot under par."

Woods made a birdie on the 10th hole, then duck-hooked his tee shot into the rough on No. 11, advanced only 100 yards into more rough and three-putted for double bogey. He lipped out a 4-foot par putt on the 12th, missed the green on No. 13 and had to two-putt from 40 feet for bogey. Suddenly, he was 3 over par just four holes into the tournament.

He went for the driver on the 373-yard 14th hole, and the cheers from the green that filtered all the way to the tee told him what happened — 30 feet short of the flag for a two-putt birdie. But he couldn't sustain the momentum, making three more bogeys.

Clarke, Leonard and South Korean K.J. Choi, who shot 68, played in the same threesome and exchanged birdies throughout the round.

Choi birdied the first five holes and Leonard closed with a backside 31 that included birdies at Nos. 10, 12, 13, 14 and 16.

"Watching Darren and K.J. birdie for the first hour ... it was fun," said Leonard, who finished second in the 1997 PGA Championship at Winged Foot. "They



Northern Ireland's Darren Clarke watches a tee shot during the first round of the PGA Championship at Whistling Straits in Haven, Wis., on Thursday. Clarke shot the best morning round with a 7-under 65.

were playing so well, I got sucked in on the back nine."

The 7,514-yard, links-style Whistling Straits course resembles the ancient coastal courses of Ireland. With its fescue rough, narrow fairways and tricky greens, the course is somewhat of a mystery. But Clarke, Leonard and Els had no trouble tearing it up.

Clarke made six birdies and a bogey on the front side to make the turn with a 31, then added birdies at Nos. 10, 11 and 14.

Els, who finished second in the Masters and British Open, was solid with seven birdies and just one bogey after starting on No. 10. Licks several of the other leaders, Els said the morning groups caught a break because the wind didn't blow in off Lake Michigan, as it did during practice rounds. That made it easier to control shots.

Els has made more than \$4 million this year and a victory in the PGA most likely would push him past Woods in the world rankings.

"I wasn't sure what to expect scoringwise because the practice rounds were pretty difficult," Els said. "But the breeze wasn't as strong and it blew from a different direction."

John Daly didn't catch any luck. He gambled and lost on one of the toughest holes on the course. Daly made a quadruple bogey on the 500-yard par-4 18th, perhaps losing his chance to make the Ryder Cup.

Daly tried to cut the dogleg with his drive, and didn't make it.

By the time he made the turn, he was 6 over. He added a double bogey at No. 6 and limped in with an 81.

The biggest traitor in Daly's bag was his 2-iron.

"It deserted me on 6, 18, and the killer was 4," he said. "I haven't hit a hook 2-iron in four years."

An overcast sky and a brisk wind greeted the early starters.

The forecast called for winds of 20 mph later in the day, and that prompted tournament officials to move up the tee boxes on three of the longer holes on the course — the 507-yard par-4 No. 8, the 618-yard par-5 No. 11 and the No. 18.

"I think they were pretty nice to us with the markers today," said Jay Haas, who opened with a 68. "I think generally, wind was more in and downwind today ... and I think that made the course play a little bit easier, especially on the holes on the lake."

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RACING STRIPES

A WEEKLY LOOK AT MOTORSPORTS

Battle on the bubble



Nextel Cup title contenders Kevin Harvick, left, and Ryan Newman race side by side earlier this year.

Courtesy of NASCAR

Drivers jockeying for position with five races to go

BY JENNA FRYER

The Associated Press

Dale Jarrett was an outspoken critic of NASCAR's new points system when he first heard about it.

Now that he's still eligible to win the championship, he's completely changed his tune.

"I think it has the potential to be very exciting," Jarrett said. "Whether we make the top 10 or not, I think we need to give this a shot and see what happens with it."

Jarrett is one of a handful of drivers scrambling to put together a late charge and break into the top 10 in the standings, where they'll be eligible to race for the Nextel Cup title.

There was no change in the top 10 following Sunday's race at Indianapolis Motor Speedway. But when Ryan Newman wrecked five laps from the end, it dropped him to a 31st-place finish and put at least five drivers on the bubble to make the "Chase for the Cup."

Newman holds just a 31-point advantage over 11th-place Kasey Kahne, and Jeremy Mayfield is one point behind Kahne.

Jarrett is just 55 points out of 10th, and Jamie McMurray and Mark Martin are well within striking distance.

The drivers have five events left to move their way up into the standings. Then NASCAR will reset the field, separating first from 10th in five-point increments. The 10 drivers will then race for the championship over the final 10 events of the season.

The stretch run begins with Sunday's race day at Watkins Glen, N.Y.

One of just two road courses on the Nextel Cup circuit, the windy race track could be a make-or-break event for the challengers. McMurray, who finished second in the other road race this season, is hopeful a strong finish at Watkins Glen could lift him into contention.

"We gained some ground on the top 10 in points after our seventh-place finish in Indy, but we're going to need some of those guys to have some bad luck in the next stretch of races in order to gain enough points to make it into the top 10," he said.

Heavily criticized since it was announced by NASCAR, the new points system has drastically changed the landscape of the Nextel Cup championship.

A year ago, Matt Kenseth used consistent

cy—he was excellent at finishing somewhere around seventh every week—and cautiously stockpiling enough points to more or less have the title locked up months before the season ended.

Tired of dull championship hunts, NASCAR shook it up this season, and now all bars are off.

Suddenly, drivers who have never had a realistic shot at taking the title are right there.

Take Mayfield, for instance. In seven seasons, his highest finish in the standings was seventh in 1998. Now, if he can crack the top 10, a driver with three career victories can race for the championship. Any other season, he would have long been eliminated from contention.

Then there's Elliott Sadler. Currently sixth in the standings, he's having a career year that has him solid in the hunt and a clear contender for the title. His previous best was 20th in 2001.

But being so close might be nerve-racking for Sadler.

"I'm probably the worst points racer there is," he said. "I really pay attention to it a lot. Every Sunday night, Monday morning after the race, I know exactly how many I'm behind the next guy, how many

positions I need to finish in front of him. I do all the math."

In a way, the new system is changing the way teams are currently competing.

Points leader Jimmie Johnson has admitted his Hendrick Motorsports team has taken a few gambles this season, so certain they are locked into the chase that they can afford to try aggressive new setups.

Others have been more conservative, while the middle-of-the-pack drivers have just been flying under the radar. As Sadler pointed out, so much attention has been placed on Johnson and Dale Earnhardt Jr. this year, the rest of the challengers have been left alone.

"You all are so busy talking about the same two cars all year long, we're just kind of hanging out, racing and doing what we need to do," he told reporters.

But as it gets into crunch time, those hovering around the cutoff can't take any chances.

Newman, who won a series-high eight races last season but finished sixth in the standings, said he won't change his approach as he clings to the 10th and final spot.

"If we hold our own, we'll be just fine," he said. "If we focus on what's ahead of us, we won't have to worry about what's behind us."

NASCAR NEXTEL CUP

Race 22: Sirius at The Glen, 9 a.m. Monday (did), AFN-Sports.

Last race: Jeff Gordon won the Brickyard 400 to become the fourth driver to record four wins at Indianapolis Motor Speedway, joining four-time Indy 500 winners A.J. Foyt, Al Unser Sr. and Rick Mears.

Last race: Robby Gordon stretched his fuel over the final 39 laps and completed a sweep of the 2003 road-course races with a victory at Watkins Glen.

DRIVERS TO WATCH

Dale Jarrett finished second at the Indy last week to take closer to title contention. Although he's can't afford to miss, he's going to the rest of the season. He's finished in the top 10 in his last five past five Watkins Glen starts.

Ryan Newman made his 700th start Sunday, the first time since 1995. He's racing for the first time with interim crew chief Garth Filkins since 1995.

Kyle Petty will be racing for the first time with interim crew chief Garth Filkins since 1995.

Nextel Cup qualifying race: Ricky Rudd, 181.068 mph, 2000.

Nextel Cup race record: Mark Martin, 193.03 mph, Aug. 13, 1995.

FAST FACTS

Jeff Gordon has finished first or better in seven of his last eight races, including three wins.

Dale Earnhardt Jr. finished his first race since being burned in a sports car crash July 18 last week, but placed 27th after cutting a tire out on the final lap. — Jimmie Johnson has better to finish this season after having engine trouble at Indianapolis.

POINTS RACE

After 21 of 36 races

1. Jimmie Johnson 3,095
2. Jeff Gordon 2,998
3. Dale Earnhardt Jr. 2,855
4. Tony Stewart 2,761
5. Matt Kenseth 2,738
6. Elliott Sadler 2,674
7. Kurt Busch 2,615
8. Bobby Labonte 2,584
9. Kevin Harvick 2,562
10. Ryan Newman 2,562
11. Kasey Kahne 2,511
12. Jeremy Mayfield 2,510
13. Dale Jarrett 2,487
14. Jamie McMurray 2,437
15. Mark Martin 2,419
16. Casey Mears 2,287
17. Rusty Wallace 2,274
18. Michael Waltrip 2,268
19. Sterling Marlin 2,223
20. Terry Labonte 2,208

BUSCH SERIES

Last race: Kyle Busch passed up a final pit stop for tires, then held off Johnny Sauter in the final laps to win the Koger 200 at Indianapolis Raceway Park for his fourth victory of the season.

Next race: Cabela's 250, Aug. 21, Brooklyn, Mich.

INDY RACING

This week: Delterra Casino Indy 300 at Sparta, Ky. (Tape-delayed, 1 p.m. Wednesday, AFN-Sports).

Last race: Buddy Rice edged Tony Kanaan by 0.076 seconds to win the Michigan Indy 400. Kanaan led for 183 laps before being passed by Rice, whose average speed of 182.123 mph was the fourth-fastest in series history.

Last year: Sam Hornish Jr. set records for both average speed and career wins with nine at the Belterra Casino Indy 300. Hornish averaged 159 mph.

This week: Toyota Tundra 200 at Gladsville, Tenn. (Tape-delayed, 11 a.m. Sunday, AFN-Sports).

Last race: Chad Chaffin took the lead on the top lap to win the Power Stroke Diesel 200 at Indianapolis Raceway Park. Chaffin's car owner, Bobby Hamilton, finished third and took over the series points lead.

Last year: Carl Edwards won his second straight race by capturing the Federated Auto Parts 300 at Nashville Speedway. Edwards was forced to the rear of the 33-buck field at the start because of an engine change.

CHAMP CARS

This week: Grand Prix of Denver.

Last race: Alex Zanardi, who didn't participate in the first round of qualifying, after a practice crash, passed Rodolfo Gonzalez with four laps to go and won the Grand Prix of Road America for his first victory in 1993.

This year: Bruno Junqueira started from the pole and won his second straight Grand Prix of Road America. Junqueira lost the lead in his 36 laps and crashed the wall with 16 laps to go, but overtook Greg Serrano in the pits midway through the race and led the final 44 laps.

FORMULA ONE

This week: Hungarian Grand Prix at Budapest.

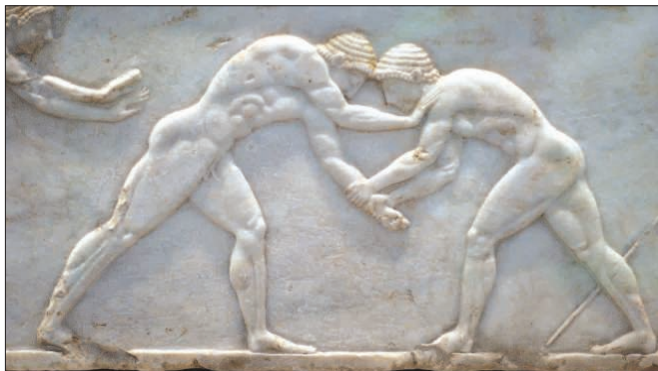
Last race: Michael Schumacher made his own record of 13 Grand Prix wins in a season by winning the German Grand Prix on July 25. Schumacher has won six straight overall to tie the mark set by Niki Lauda.

This year: Spain's Fernando Alonso led from the start in the Hungarian Grand Prix and became the youngest winner of a Formula 1 race at age 22. Alonso won while lapping Michael Schumacher.

SPORTS



Stripes Timeout: Get a complete guide to the Summer Olympics in our pullout section in the center of this edition



AP

A marble sculpture of Greek wrestlers from 510 B.C. is part of an exhibition at the National Archaeological Museum in Athens. The exhibition "Agon" — the Greek word for contest — of Olympic-related antiquities was timed for the homecoming of the Olympics to their ancient birthplace. Scholars are learning that even the ancient Greeks tried to gain every advantage in the Olympic Games.

Ancient Olympians: Not Homeric heroes

Archaeologists shedding light on earliest Games

BY JOSEPH B. VERRENGIA
The Associated Press

It was like the Super Bowl, Woodstock, Mardi Gras, a holy pilgrimage and a Chippendale show all rolled into one. The setting for the earliest Olympic Games some 3,000 years ago was a sanctuary of soaring marble temples and a foul, drunken shantytown plagued by water shortages, campfire smoke and sewage.

The athletes, glistening from olive oil, competed naked. Gymnasiums were restricted to keep the sex trade from overrunning events on the field.

As the 2004 Summer Games open in Athens, archaeologists and scholars are demythologizing and viewing the original

Olympics as they really happened.

Contrary to the modern stereotype, the games weren't tightly scripted Homeric epics in which warriors dropped their weapons every four years to honor the twin virtues of amateur sport and brotherhood.

While the Olympics' 3,000-year history is dotted with the heroic champions like the wrestler Arrhichion, who fought to the death, researchers say they also were plagued by cheating, scandal, gambling and outsized egos.

"The ancient Greeks were not as idealistic as we represent them to be," says David Gilman Romano of the University of Pennsylvania Museum and director of a new excavation at Mount Lykaion, 17 miles from ancient Olympia.

"They had many of the same problems we have today," The ancient

Games were held in a remote valley. Forty-thousand spectators crowded a hillside above a sacred precinct containing some of the greatest temples in the empire. Sport, they believed, was a high tribute to the gods, who favored the athletes who won.

Before the Games, athletes pledged their piety as they were paraded past a row of statues of gods and former champions that were paid for from the fines of disgraced cheaters. At the feet of a 40-foot statue of Zeus — one of the seven wonders of the ancient world — they sacrificed oxen and boar and roasted hunks of the flesh in a sacred flame.

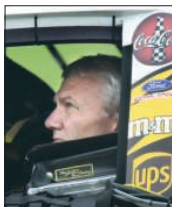
Then the Games would begin, lasting five days. The athletes would consult fortunetellers and magicians for victory charms and potions — the ancient precursors to steroids, classics experts say — as well as curses on their opponents to fail.

SEE GAMES ON PAGE 37

"The ancient Greeks were not as idealistic as we represent them to be. They had many of the same problems we have today."

David Gilman Romano

Director of an excavation at Mount Lykaion, 17 miles from ancient Olympia



Jarrett, other early opponents of new Nextel Cup scoring startup to see advantages

Page 39



Clarke jumps to early lead in first round of PGA Championship

Page 38



Martinez throws first shutout in almost 4 years as Red Sox beat Devil Rays

Page 36

The arm of a boxer on a statue from the late 2nd century B.C. The first recorded incident of cheating in the Games occurred in 388 B.C., when boxer Eupolus of Thessaly bribed three opponents to take a dive.

AP

